STARBLAZER

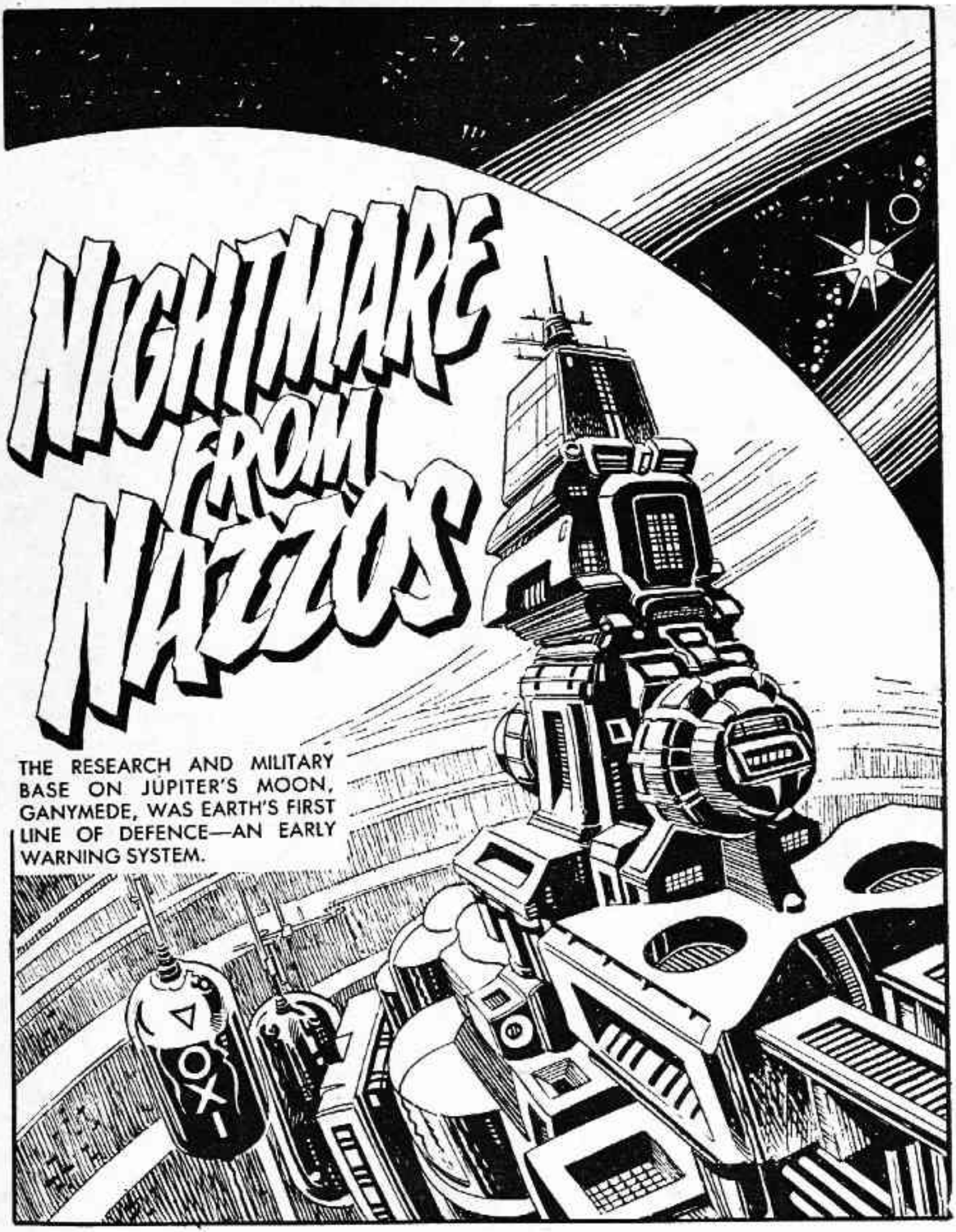
SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 143

22p

NIGHTMARE FROM NAZZOS

STARBLAZER

EARTH WAS A SMALL NATION IN THE VAST GALAXY, AND HELD NO TERRITORY OUTSIDE HER OWN SOLAR SYSTEM. ALL THE RESOURCES SHE NEEDED WERE TO BE FOUND ON THE DEAD WORLDS THAT SHARED HER SUN. BUT THERE WERE MANY POWERFUL ENEMIES IN THE GALAXY WHO LOOKED AT EARTH WITH GREEDY EYES, WAITING ONLY FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT TO ATTACK.

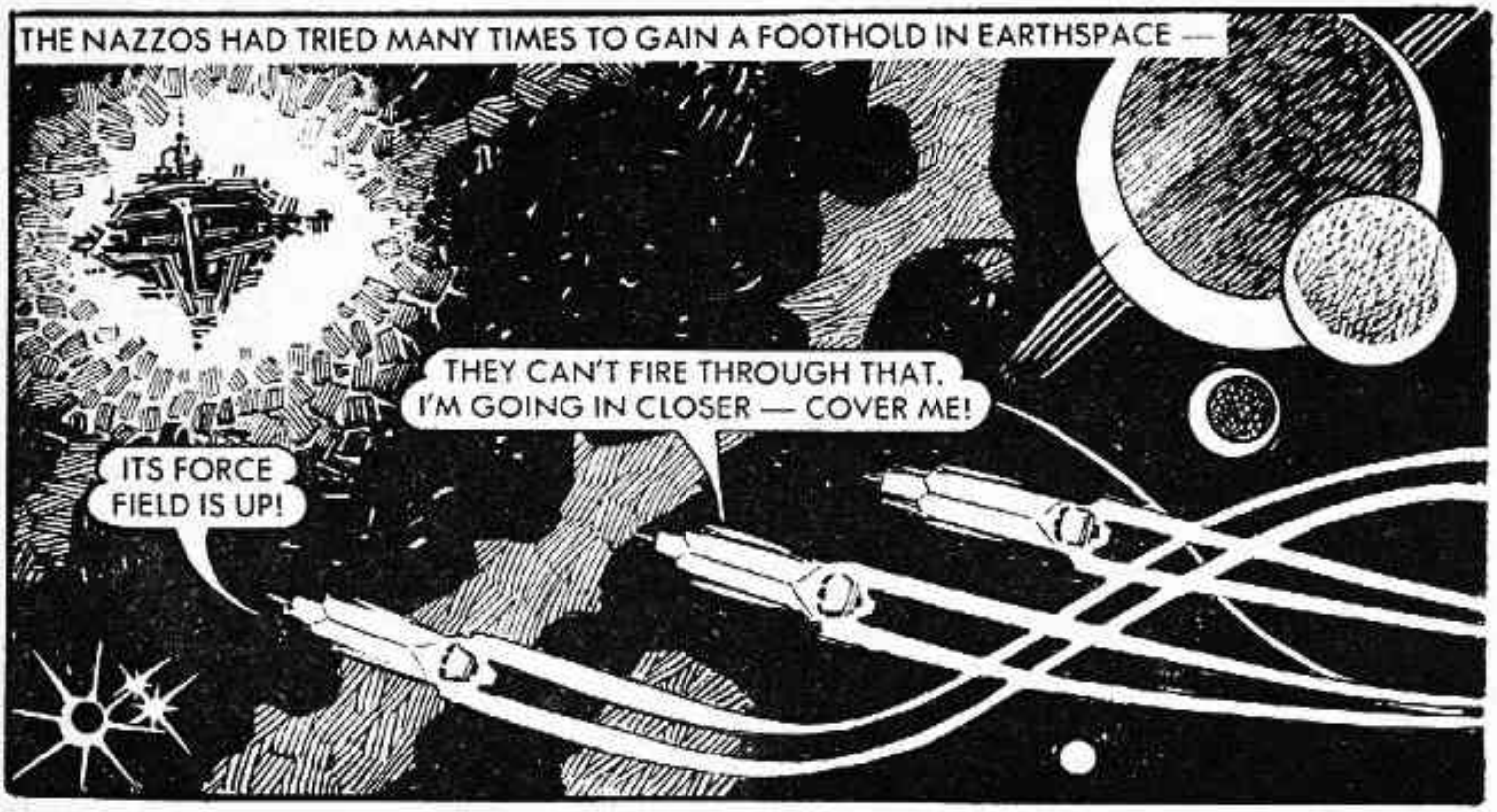

NIGHTMARE FROM NAZZOS
THE RESEARCH AND MILITARY BASE ON JUPITER'S MOON, GANYMEDE, WAS EARTH'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENCE—AN EARLY WARNING SYSTEM.

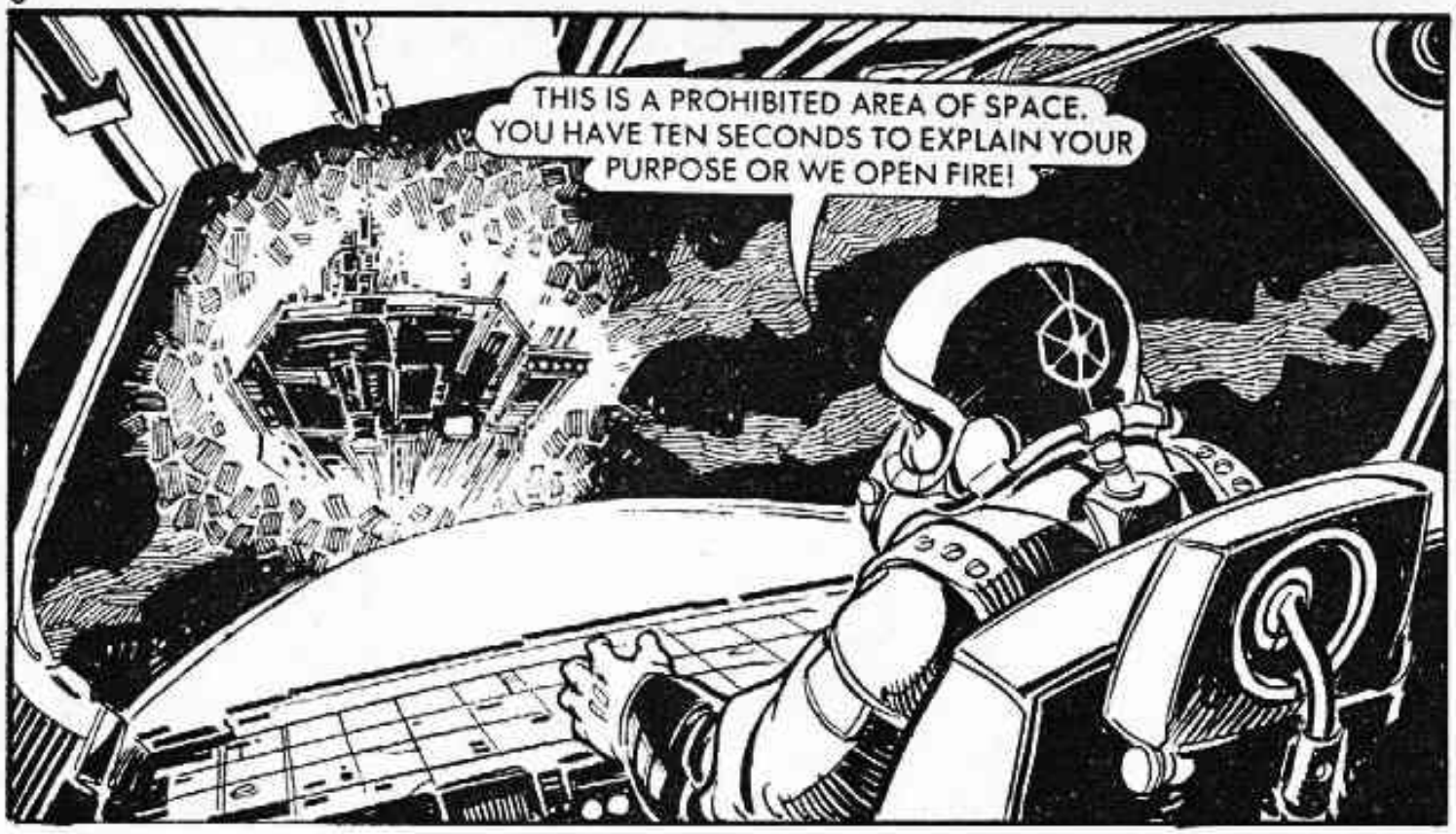
THERE HAD BEEN NO TROUBLE WITH EARTH'S ENEMIES FOR TWO YEARS AND ONLY THE EXPECTED ARRIVAL OF THE YEARLY SUPPLY SHIP CAUSED ANY EXCITEMENT.

IS THERE ANY SIGN OF THE FREIGHTER?

NOT YET, BUT JUPITER'S PROBABLY MASKING HER SIGNALS!

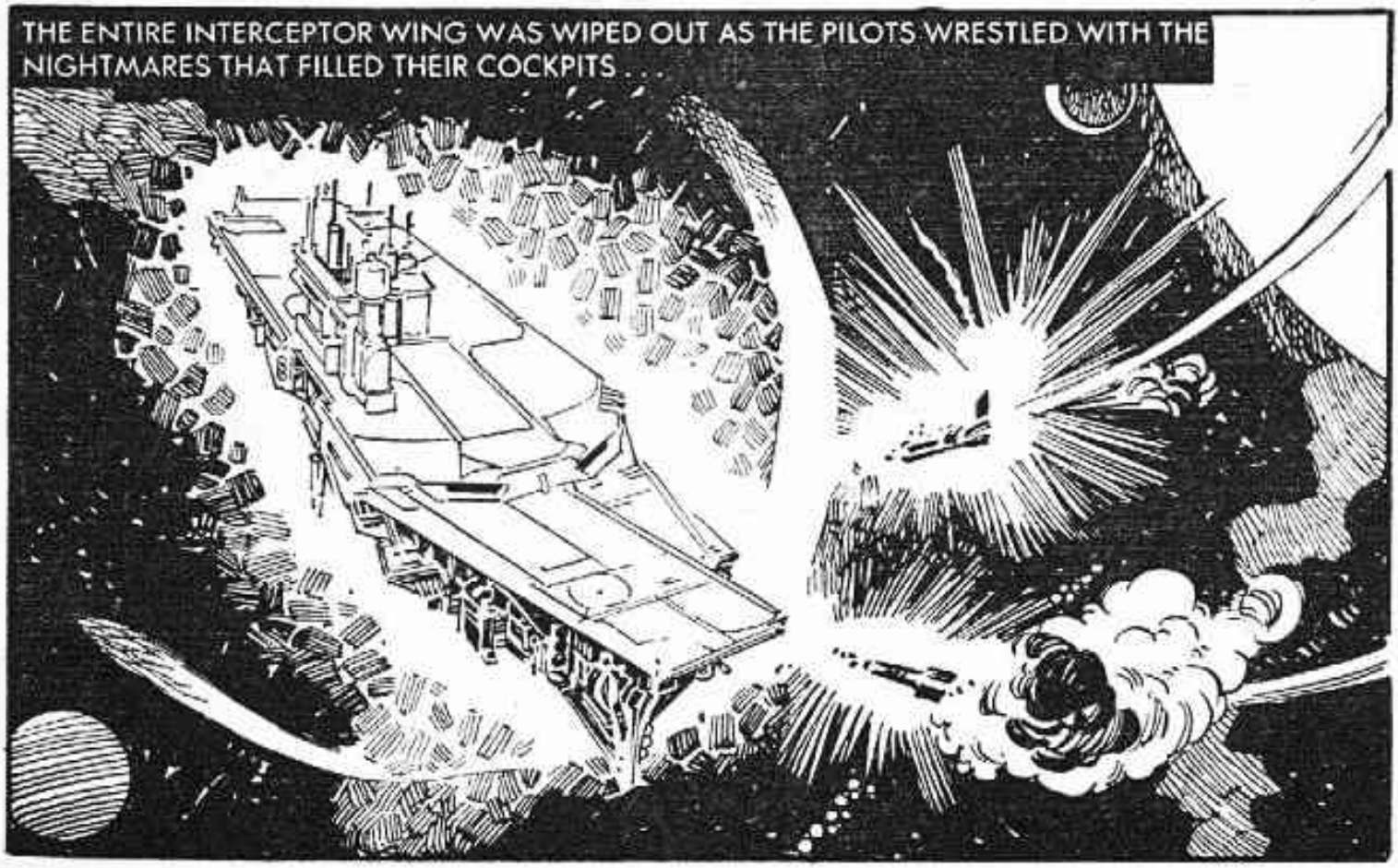
YE NOVAES! THAT'S A NAZZOS WARSHIP!
INTERCEPTORS TO INVESTIGATE!
RED ALERT, ALL PERSONNEL! ENERGY DOMES ACTIVATING IN THIRTY SECONDS!


THE NAZZOS HAD TRIED MANY TIMES TO GAIN A FOOTHOLD IN EARTHSPACE —
THEY CAN'T FIRE THROUGH THAT. I'M GOING IN CLOSER — COVER ME!
ITS FORCE FIELD IS UP!


THIS IS A PROHIBITED AREA OF SPACE. YOU HAVE TEN SECONDS TO EXPLAIN YOUR PURPOSE OR WE OPEN FIRE!

BUT THE PILOT DIDN'T HEAR ANY EXPLANATION. INSTEAD HIS COCKPIT FILLED UP WITH CRAWLING SHADOWS. . .
NO! NO! I'M BEING ATTACKED . . . NO . . .

THE INTERCEPTOR CRASHED OUT OF CONTROL INTO THE WARSHIP'S FORCEFIELD —


THE ENTIRE INTERCEPTOR WING WAS WIPED OUT AS THE PILOTS WRESTLED WITH THE NIGHTMARES THAT FILLED THEIR COCKPITS . . .

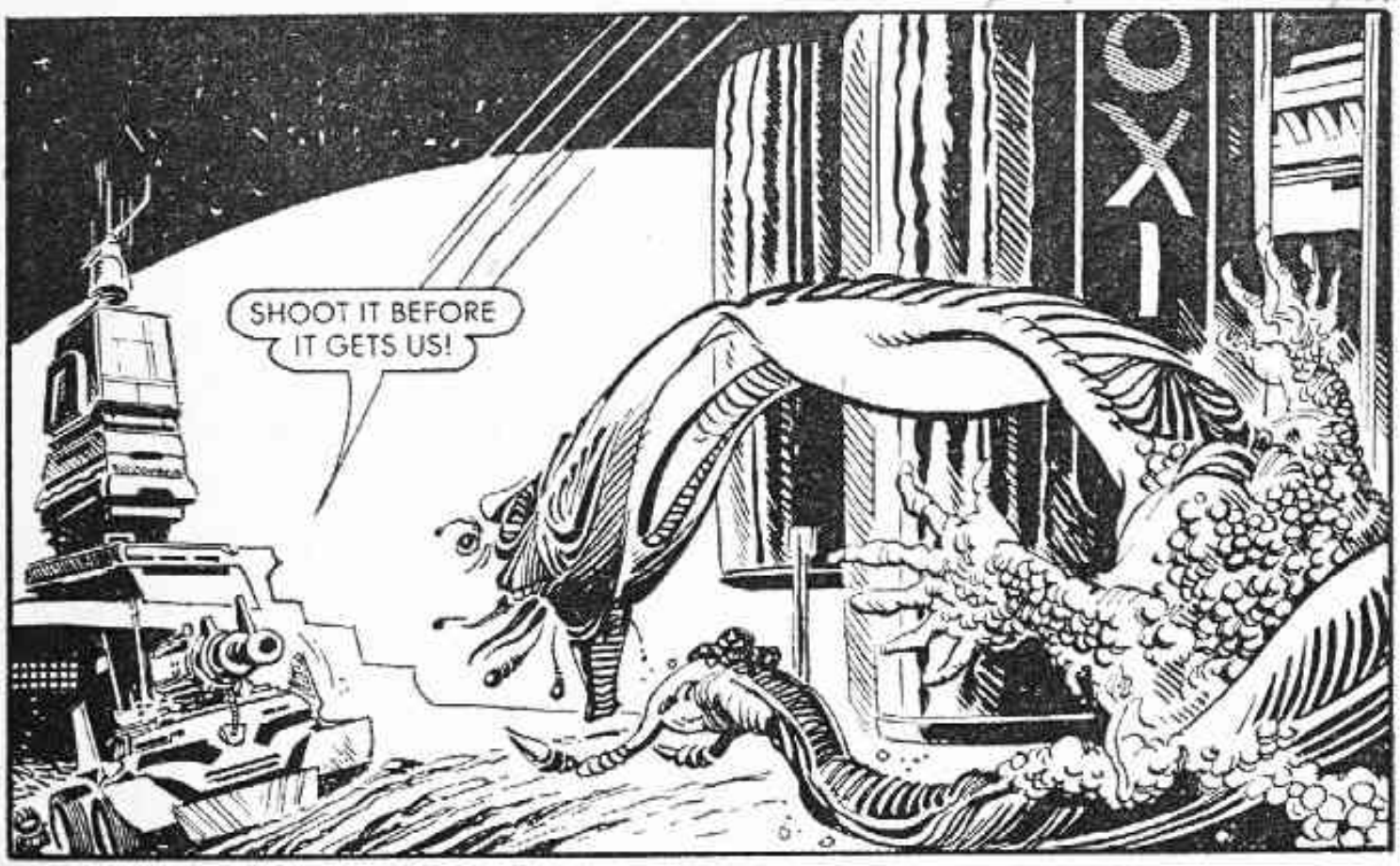
THE MYSTERIOUS DESTRUCTION OF THE INTERCEPTORS WAS WATCHED BY BASE —
LAUNCH MISSILES! CONCENTRATE THEM ON ONE PLACE TO EXPLODE IN SEQUENCE. WE'LL HAMMER A WAY INTO THAT SHIP!
MISSILES AWAY!

SUDDENLY THE SHADOWY NIGHTMARES APPEARED ON THE BASE SHIP—
LOOK!

KILL THEM! FIGHT FOR YOUR LIVES!

NOOO...OOO...

YOU FIEND FROM HELL!

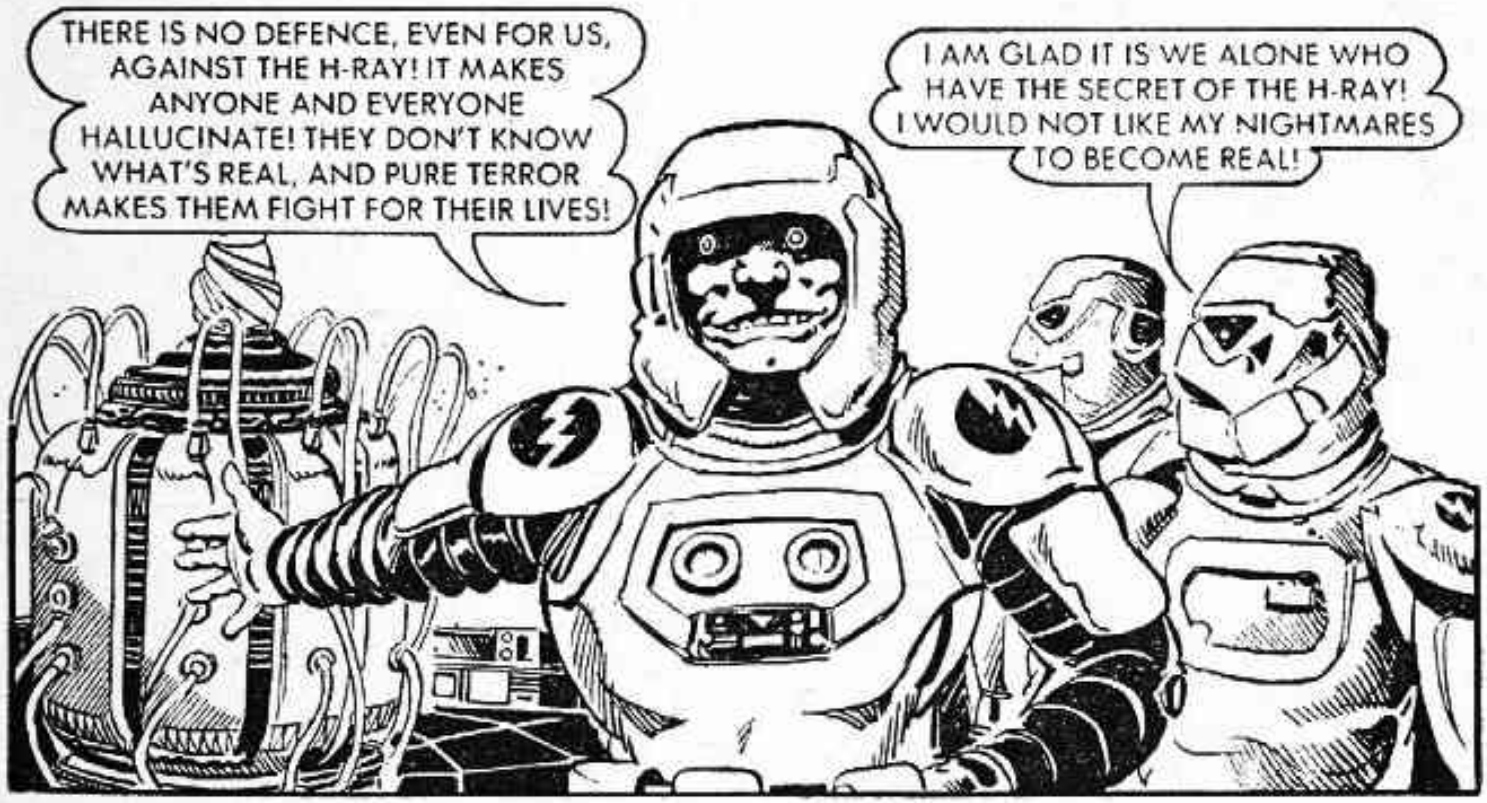

SHOOT IT BEFORE IT GETS US!
OXI

THE BLAST FROM THE MOBILE CANNON TORE THROUGH THE GARRISON'S PROTECTIVE OXY-DOME. VACUUM RIPPED THE AIR FROM THE EARTHMEN'S LUNGS.
OXI

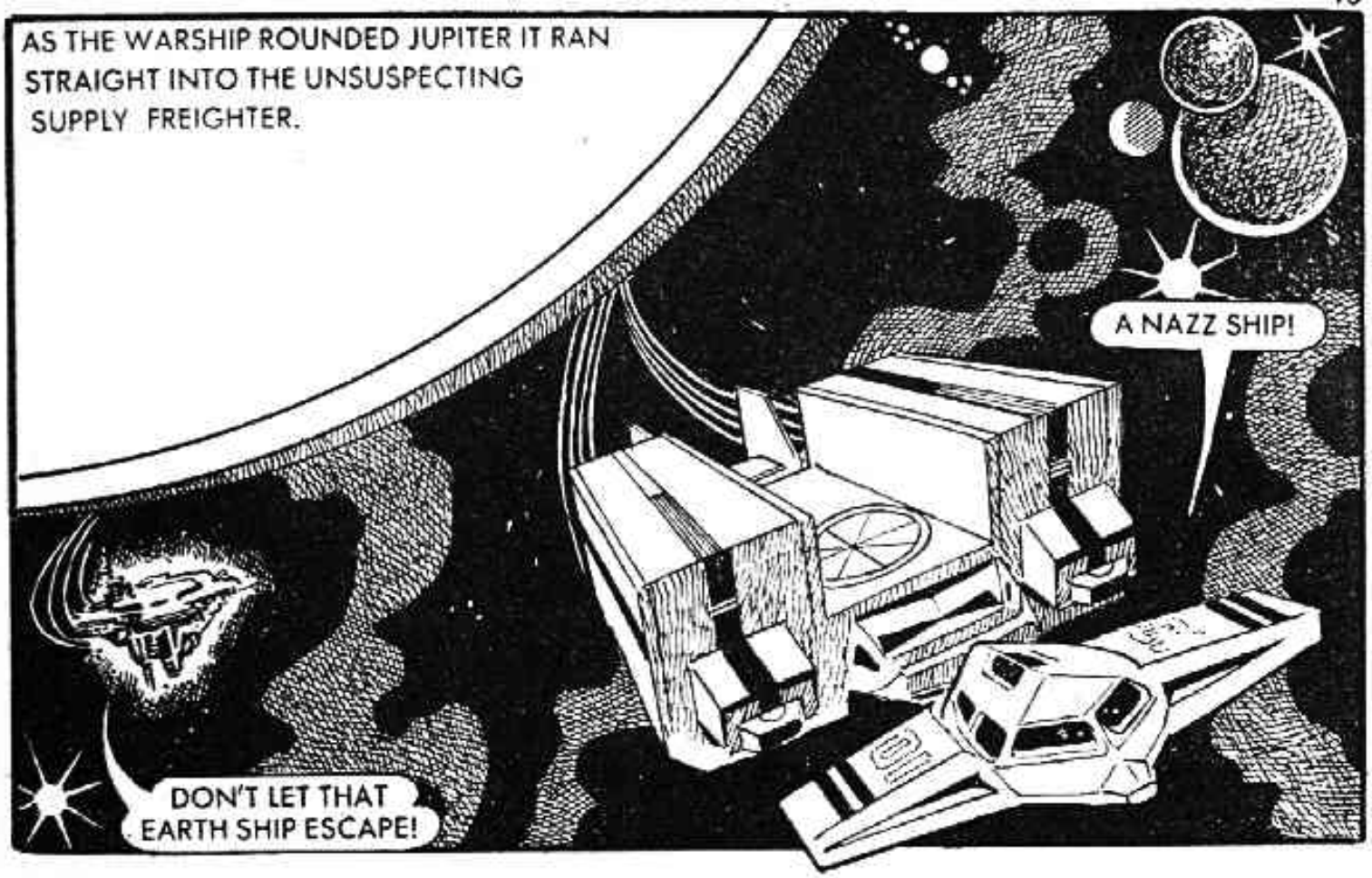
THEY HAVE SHATTERED THEIR OXY-DOMES, GENERAL! RESISTANCE HAS CEASED!
LAND A DEATH SQUAD TO EXTERMINATE ANY SURVIVORS!

NAZZ SOLDIERS MOVED THROUGH THE GARRISON LEAVING TOTAL DEATH BEHIND THEM.

FROM INSIDE HIS WARSHIP THE NAZZ GENERAL VIEWED THE CARNAGE WITH SATISFACTION.
THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO FIGHT A WAR! WE WIPE OUT EARTH'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENCE WITHOUT SPILLING ONE DROP OF NAZZ BLOOD. SOON WE WILL CONQUER EARTH HERSELF! THANKS TO OUR H-RAY!

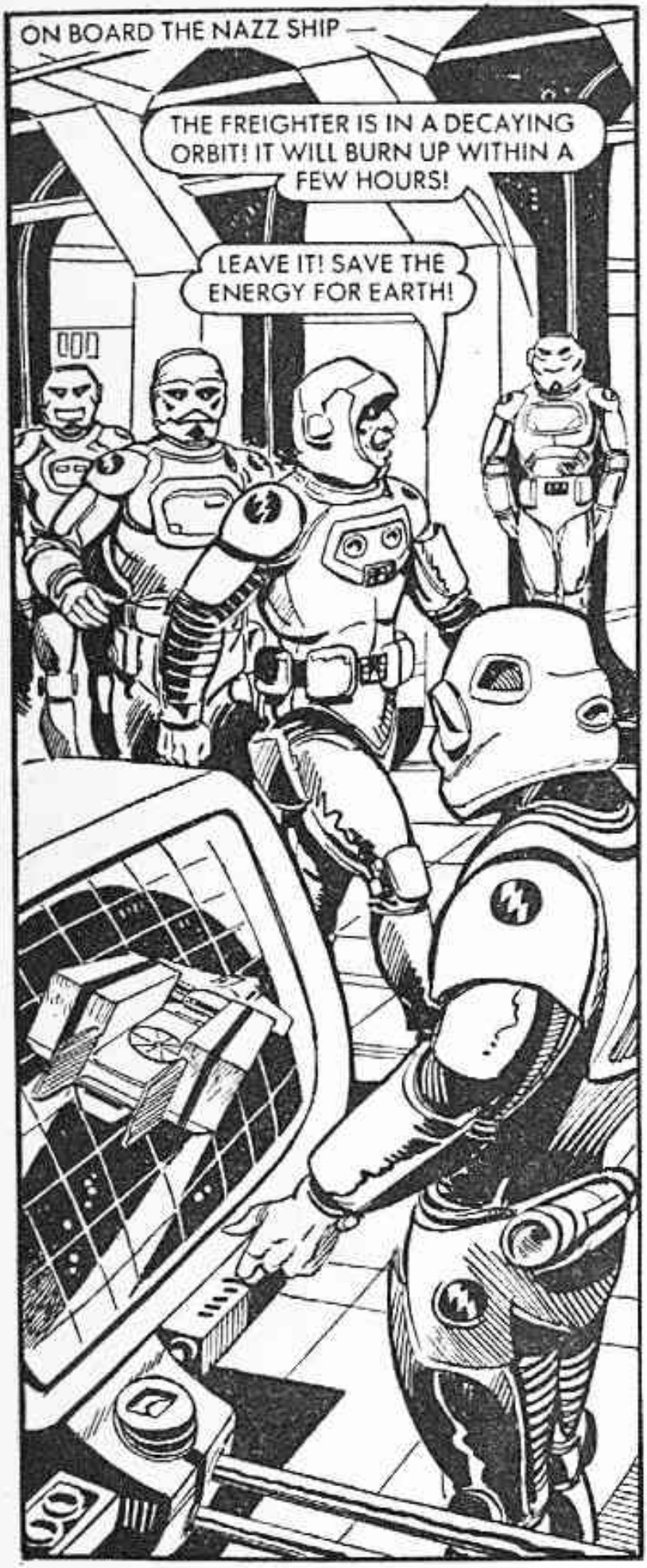

THERE IS NO DEFENCE, EVEN FOR US, AGAINST THE H-RAY! IT MAKES ANYONE AND EVERYONE HALLUCINATE! THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT'S REAL, AND PURE TERROR MAKES THEM FIGHT FOR THEIR LIVES!
I AM GLAD IT IS WE ALONE WHO HAVE THE SECRET OF THE H-RAY! I WOULD NOT LIKE MY NIGHTMARES TO BECOME REAL!

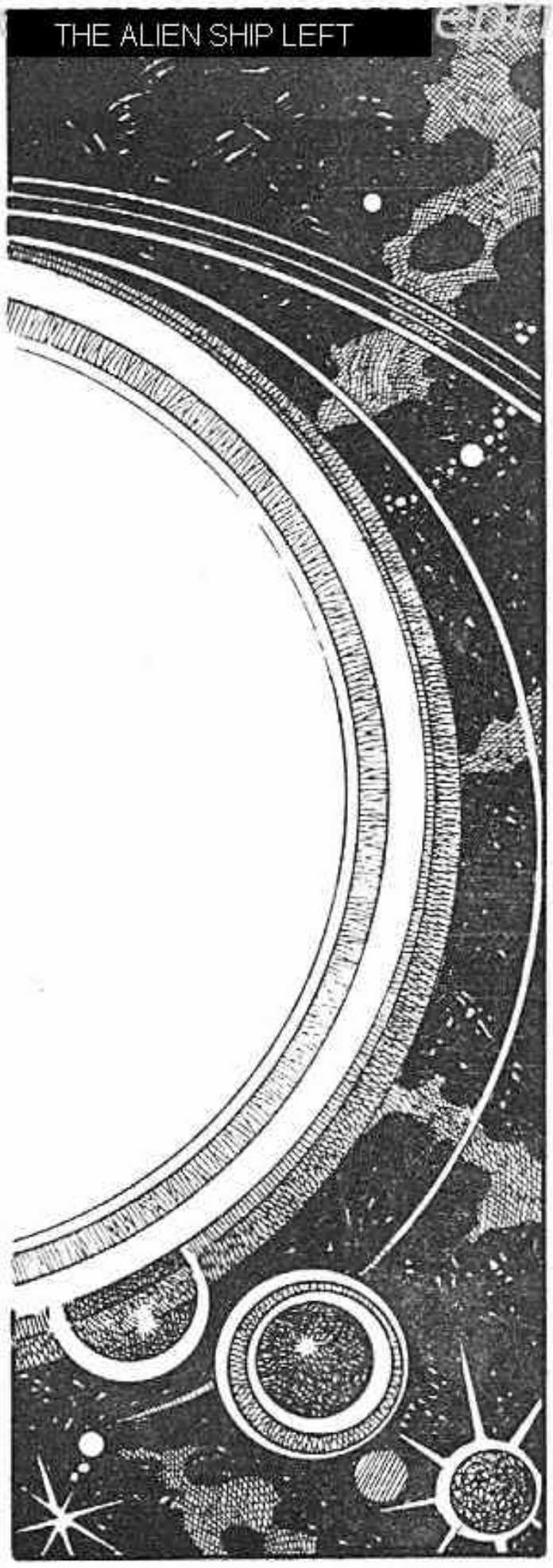
THE DEATH SQUAD HAS RETURNED, SIR. DO YOU WISH ME TO DROP A HOMING BOMB ON THE EARTH BASE?
THERE IS NO NEED. WE WILL REJOIN OUR FLEET AND AID IN THE DESTRUCTION OF THE MARS FLEET AND THEN THE TAKE-OVER OF EARTH!
THE NAZZ WARSHIP MOVED OUT FROM GANYMEDE TO REJOIN THE FLEET WOULD DESTROY EARTH.
MAKE MAXIMUM SPEED WHEN WE CLEAR THIS PLANET!


AS THE WARSHIP ROUNDED JUPITER IT RAN STRAIGHT INTO THE UNSUSPECTING SUPPLY FREIGHTER.
A NAZZ SHIP!
DON'T LET THAT EARTH SHIP ESCAPE!

AS THE H-RAY SWEPT THE SHIP, THE CREW BEGAN TO SEE OTHERS AS FIENDISH MONSTERS
HELP! I CAN'T REACH MY GUN! THEY'RE ATTACKING ME!

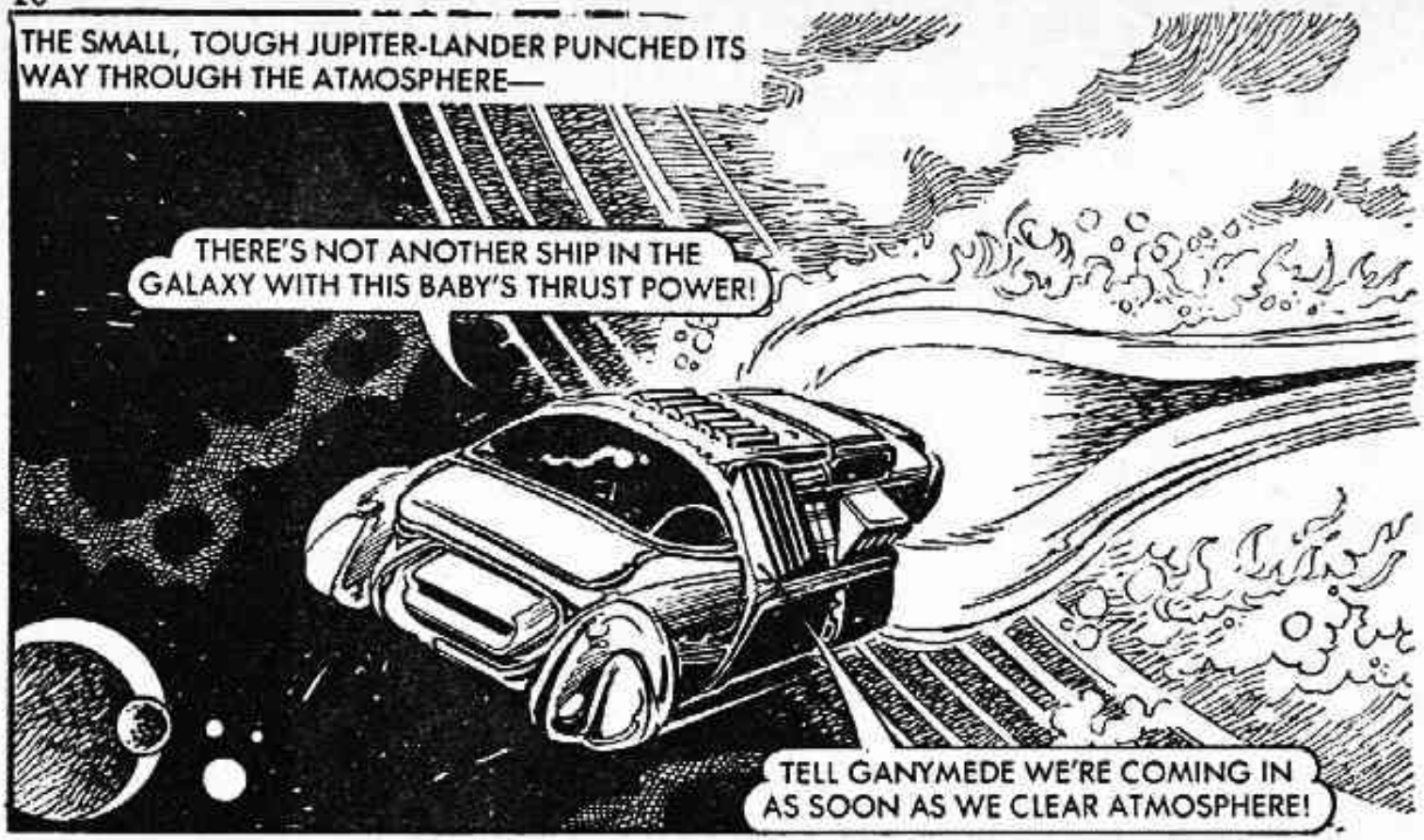
I'VE KILLED IT!
THE TERRIFIED CREW DECIMATED THEIR OWN NUMBER —
YOU'LL DIE WITH ME . . . YOU DEMON . . .


ON BOARD THE NAZZ SHIP —
THE FREIGHTER IS IN A DECAYING ORBIT! IT WILL BURN UP WITHIN A FEW HOURS!
LEAVE IT! SAVE THE ENERGY FOR EARTH!


THE ALIEN SHIP LEFT

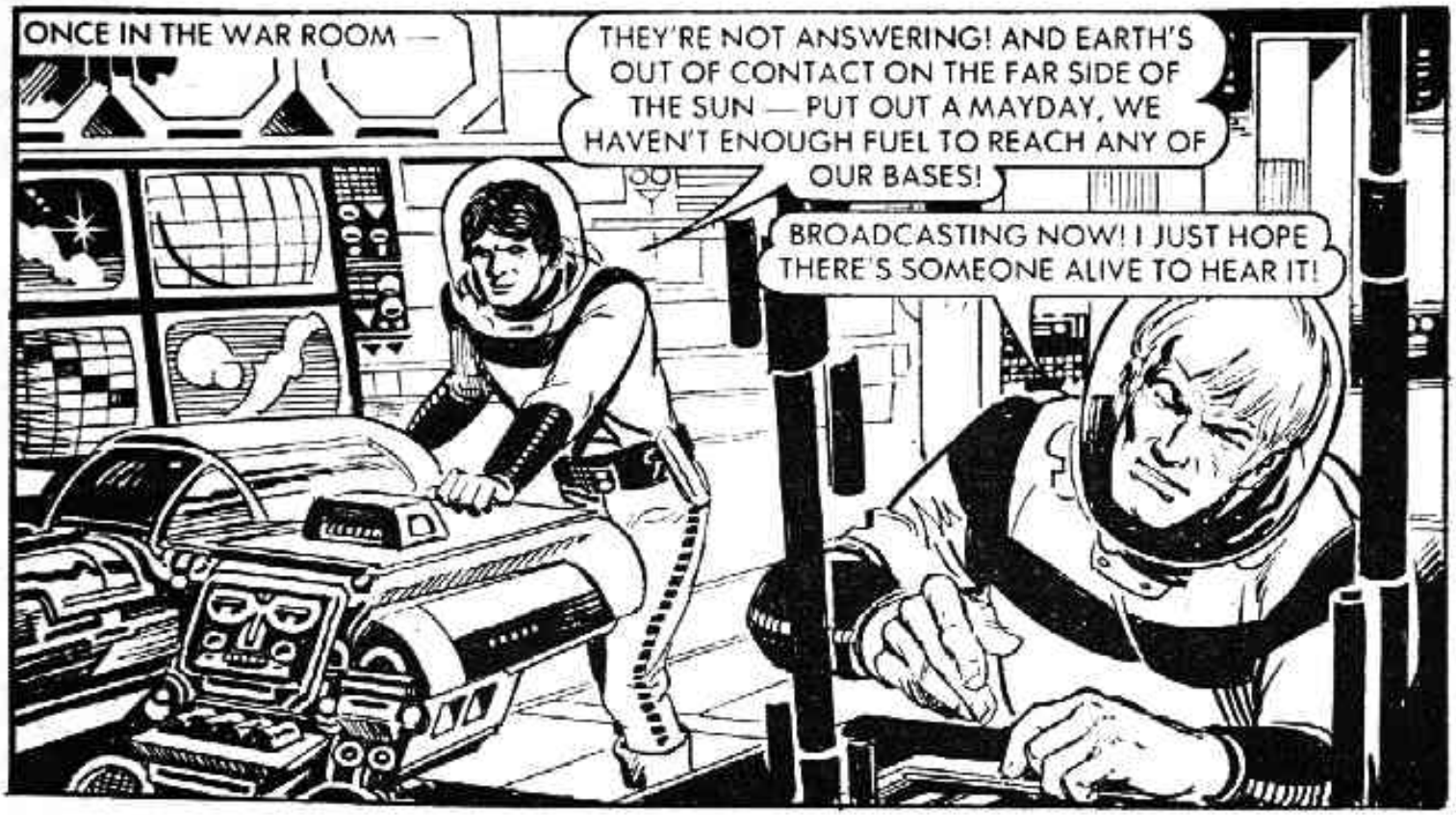
MEANWHILE, ON THE SURFACE OF JUPITER IT WAS QUITE A GOOD DAY. WIND SPEED WAS DOWN TO ONE THOUSAND MILES AN HOUR AND THE LIGHTNING STRIKES WERE ONLY OF A BILLION MEGA-WATTS.
TWO MEMBERS OF THE JUPITER RESEARCH EXPEDITION WERE RETURNING TO THEIR SHIP UNAWARE OF THE GANYMEDE RAID.
I'LL BE GLAD TO GET OUT OF THIS SUIT!
WELL, WAIT UNTIL YOU GET IN THE SHIP — THAT'S MOLTEN METAL YOU'RE WALKING THROUGH!

THE JUPE-SUITS WERE ALMOST INDESTRUCTIBLE. ENERGISED SHELLS OF HYPER-STEEL AND ATOMICALLY POWERED LIMBS PROTECTED THEM AGAINST JUPITER'S COLOSSAL GRAVITY.


THE SMALL, TOUGH JUPITER-LANDER PUNCHED ITS WAY THROUGH THE ATMOSPHERE—
THERE'S NOT ANOTHER SHIP IN THE GALAXY WITH THIS BABY'S THRUST POWER!
TELL GANYMEDE WE'RE COMING IN AS SOON AS WE CLEAR ATMOSPHERE!

GET ME A VIDSCAN.
IT'S NO USE! SOMETHING'S WRONG!

THEY LANDED —
THEY'RE ALL DEAD!
LET'S FIND THE WAR ROOM. WE CAN CONTACT THE MARS GARRISON FROM THERE!


ONCE IN THE WAR ROOM —
THEY'RE NOT ANSWERING! AND EARTH'S OUT OF CONTACT ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE SUN — PUT OUT A MAYDAY, WE HAVEN'T ENOUGH FUEL TO REACH ANY OF OUR BASES!
BROADCASTING NOW! I JUST HOPE THERE'S SOMEONE ALIVE TO HEAR IT!

STILL IN A DECAYING ORBIT THE SUPPLY FREIGHTER AUTOMATICALLY PICKED UP THE SIGNAL—WHICH WAS ANSWERED BY PILOT TATE, THE ONLY SURVIVOR OF THE NIGHTMARE—
I HEAR YOU, GANYMEDE . . . I'LL TRY TO REACH YOU . . .
THE DAZED TATE PUT HIS CRAFT DOWN —
I'M TATE . . . FREIGHTER PILOT. MARS' SILENCE INDICATES THEY'VE FALLEN! SO WHAT DO WE DO?
I'M TRAVIS, HE'S ROYLE, BOTH JUST BACK FROM A SURVEY. WE'VE NO CHOICE! THERE WILL BE SURVIVORS — MARS IS A BIG PLACE — WE CAN JOIN UP AND HELP ANY RESISTANCE!

WITH THE J-LANDER CLAMPED ON, THEY BLURRED OUT TO MARS.
I'M PICKING UP A TRANSMIT FROM THE SURFACE. THE NAZZ FLEET HAS LEFT FOR EARTH. THERE'S JUST ONE SHIP ORBITING THE PLANET MOPPING UP RESISTANCE!

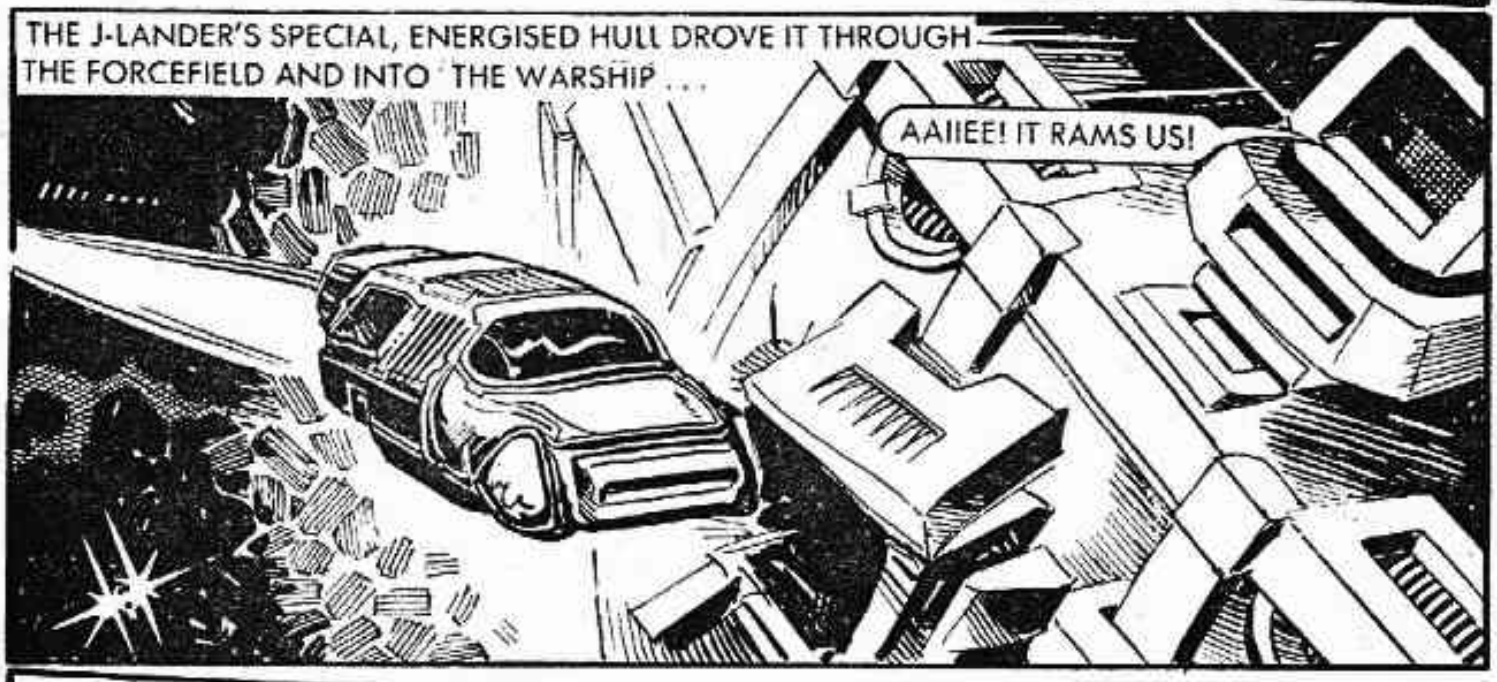
WHAT'S YOUR STATUS, COLONEL?
I'VE GOT MY MEN SCATTERED THROUGH THE CANYONS. THE MOMENT WE GROUP TOGETHER THE SHIP BEAMS THE H-RAY — SO WE KEEP MOVING! THEY'VE ALSO LANDED TROOPS.

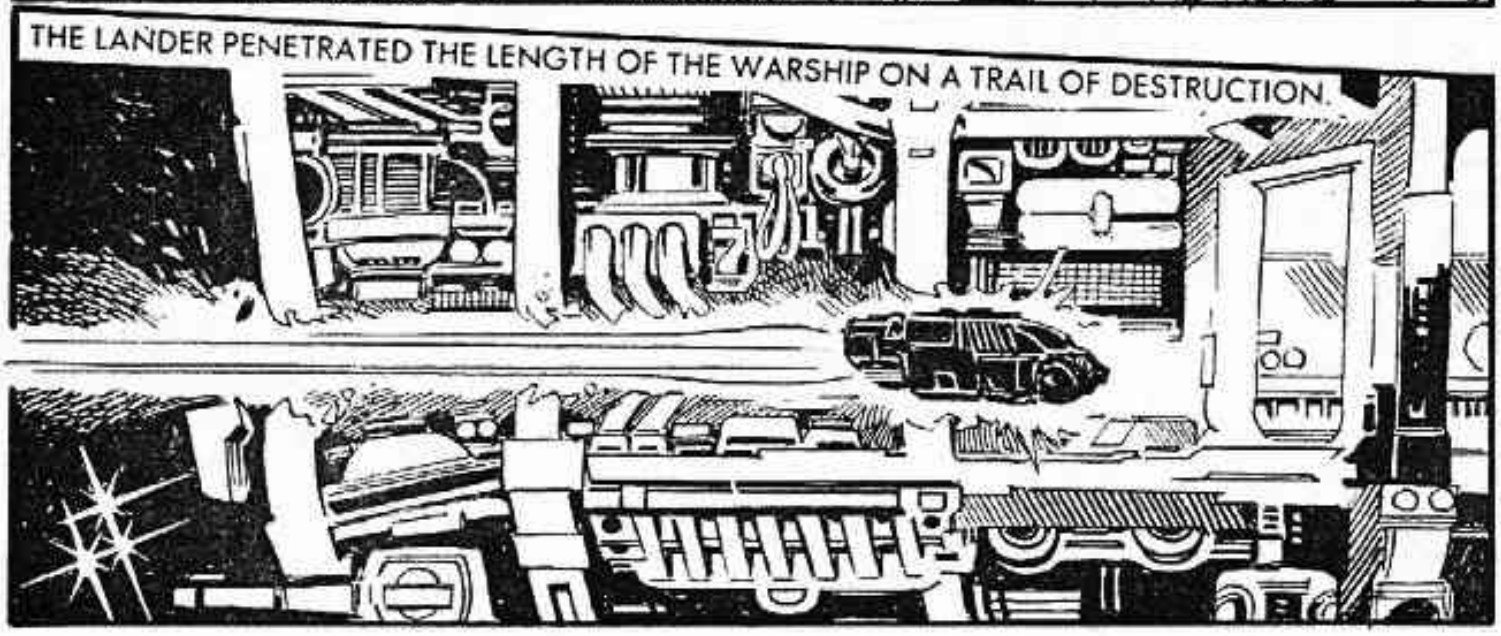
HOW CAN WE KNOCK OUT THE NAZZ SHIP? THIS SHIP'S UNARMED AND THEY'VE GOT THE H-RAY AND A FORCEFIELD.
THE J-LANDER HAS AN ENERGISED HULL. IT COULD PIERCE ANY FORCEFIELD. WE ACTIVATE THE CRASH SEATS. PUT THE SHIP ON AUTO AND RAM THE WARSHIP!

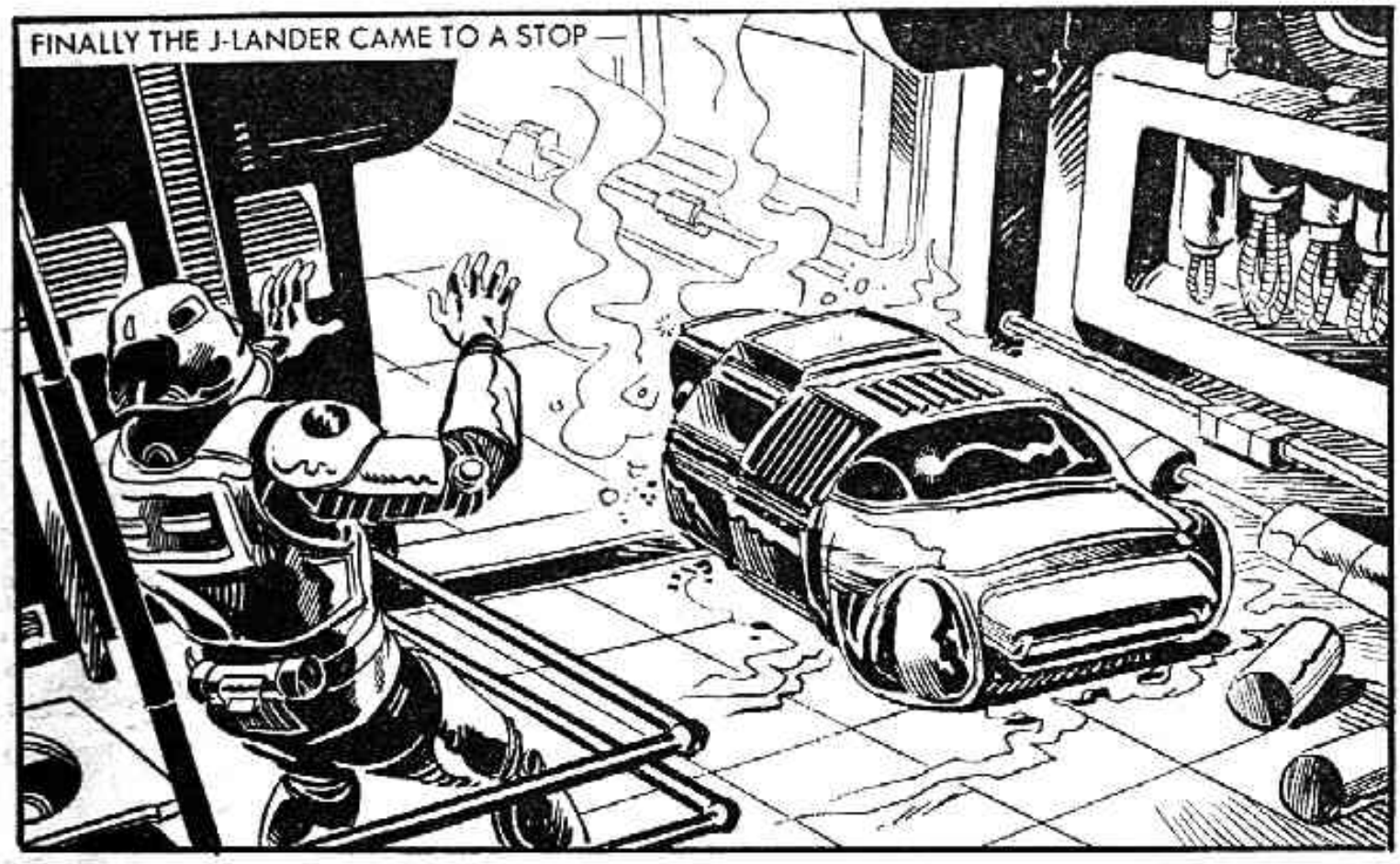
TRAVIS INSTRUCTED THE SHIP'S COMPUTER TO ACTIVATE THE CRASH SYSTEM LOCKING THEM INTO THEIR SEATS.
WHATEVER HAPPENS, COMPUTER, YOU ARE NOT TO RELEASE US UNTIL THE J-LANDER HAS RAMMED THAT SHIP!
LEAVING TATE ON THE FREIGHTER THEY BLASTED OFF—

THE J-LANDER BLASTED TOWARDS THE NAZZ WARSHIP AT FULL POWER —
HOSTILE VESSEL ATTACKING! FIRE THE RAY!
ROYLE WAS AFFECTED BY THE H-RAY.
ARRGH! DON'T KILL ME!
IT'S NOT WORKING ON ME!

ON THE NAZZ SHIP —
THE SHIP STILL COMES!
IT WILL SMASH ON OUR FORCEFIELD!


THE J-LANDER'S SPECIAL, ENERGISED HULL DROVE IT THROUGH THE FORCEFIELD AND INTO THE WARSHIP . . .
AAIIEE! IT RAMS US!


THE LANDER PENETRATED THE LENGTH OF THE WARSHIP ON A TRAIL OF DESTRUCTION.


FINALLY THE J-LANDER CAME TO A STOP —

YOU OKAY, ROYLE?
I GUESS SO, BUT THAT WAS SOME TRIP!
WE'LL HAVE TO GO OUTSIDE TO FINISH THE SHIP OFF — THEY'VE STILL GOT POWER!

CUT A WAY INTO THAT THING!
OUTSIDE THE J-LANDER WERE ARMED NAZZ.
IT'S NO USE! NOTHING WILL TOUCH IT, SIR!
THEY ARE COMING OUT. KILL THEM!

THE FULL FORCE OF NAZZ FIREPOWER POURED OVER TRAVIS'S JUPE-SUIT!
COME ON OUT, ROYLE, THE NAZZ WANT TO PLAY SOLDIERS.

OUT OF THE WAY. YOU CAN'T HURT US WITH THOSE TOYS!
LOOKS AS IF THE POWER FEEDS TO THE ENGINES COME FROM THIS WAY. IF WE TRACE THEM BACK THEY'LL LEAD US TO THE POWER BANKS!
I RECKON THEY'RE BEHIND THIS BULKHEAD!
SOMETHING'S THERE FOR SURE. LOOK AT THE NAZZ RUNNING FOR COVER!
IT'S THE JACKPOT. THESE ARE ANTI-MATTER GENERATORS! IF WE SMASH THESE THE ENTIRE POWER SYSTEM WILL COLLAPSE.
THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?

THEY RIPPED INTO THE GENERATORS WITH THEIR ATOMICALLY POWERED LIMBS. ALL THROUGH THE WARSHIP CIRCUITS OVERLOADED, BURNT OUT AND DIED.

THAT SHOULD PUT THIS SHIP OUT OF ACTION!

YEAH! ITS TROUBLE-MAKING DAYS ARE OVER!

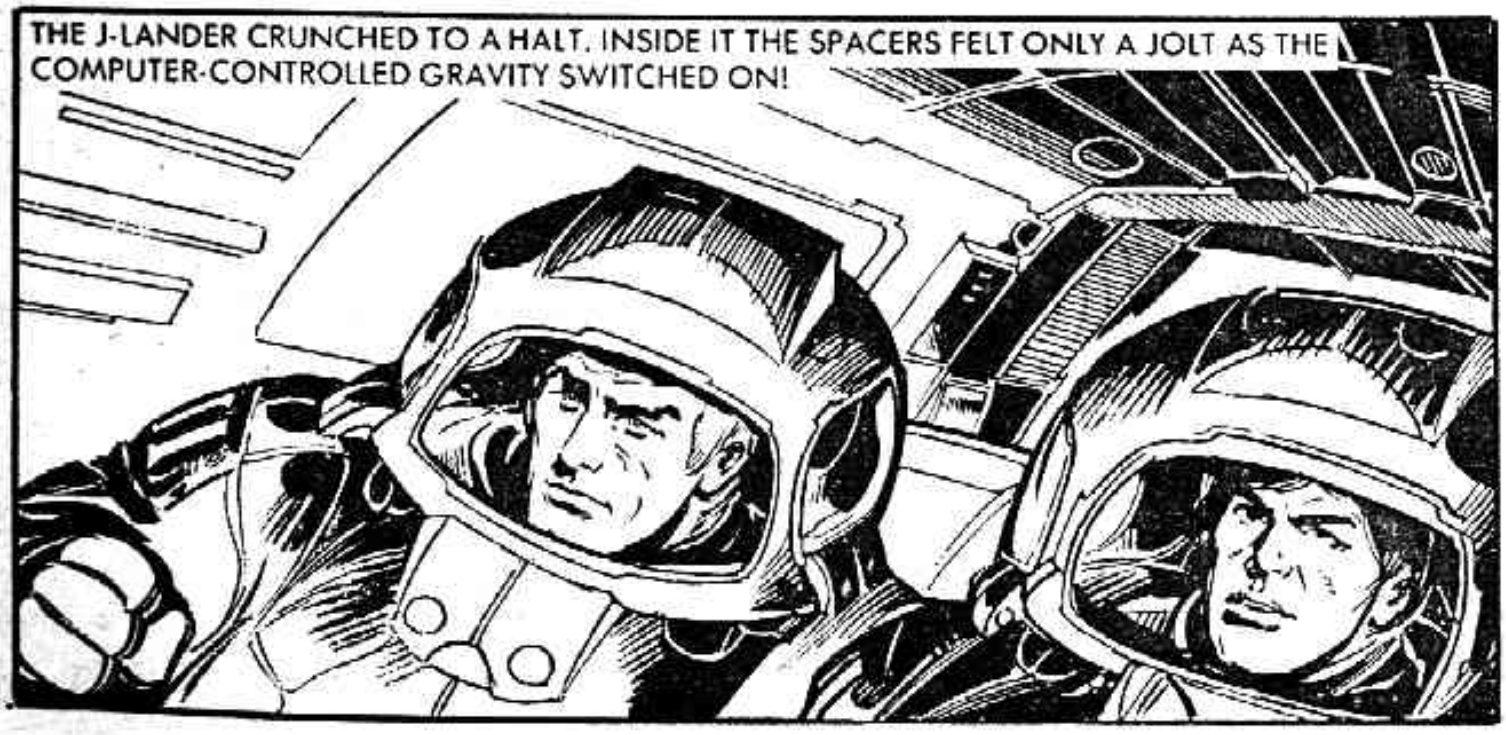
TATE SPACED UP THE FREIGHTER ALONGSIDE THE 'DEAD' WARSHIP.

THE BOYS ON MARS NEED HELP. THE NAZZ HAVE GOT MOBILE H-UNITS DOWN THERE!

WE COPY, TATE! WE'RE GOING DOWN IN THE J-LANDER!

THIS IS THE QUICKEST WAY OUT! GET THE GROUND UNITS TO FEED US THEIR CO-ORDINATES — OUR FUEL BANKS READ ALMOST ZERO!
THEY DESCENDED TO THE MOUNTAINS OF MARS —
I SEE THEM!
YOU'LL HAVE TO GET THEM IN ONE GO!
TRAVIS DROVE THE J-LANDER STRAIGHT THROUGH THE TWO H-TANKS!
OUR ENGINE'S DEAD! WE'RE CRASHING!
BRACE YOURSELF!

CRASH SYSTEMS ACTIVATING!


THE J-LANDER CRUNCHED TO A HALT. INSIDE IT THE SPACERS FELT ONLY A JOLT AS THE COMPUTER-CONTROLLED GRAVITY SWITCHED ON!

ARE YOU GUYS IN ONE PIECE?
YEAH! DID YOU EXPECT WALKING MINCEMEAT?

WE'LL ALL BE MINCEMEAT IF I DON'T GET YOU OUT OF HERE IN A HURRY!
WE'VE GOT JUPE-SUITS THAT CAN HANDLE ANY OF THEIR FIRE!

MAYBE, BUT THE NAZZ ARE BRINGING UP ANOTHER H-TANK. CAN YOU AIR-LIFT OUR JUPES OUT?
NO WAY! YOU'LL MAKE OUR MAXIMUM LIMIT!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING, TRAVIS?

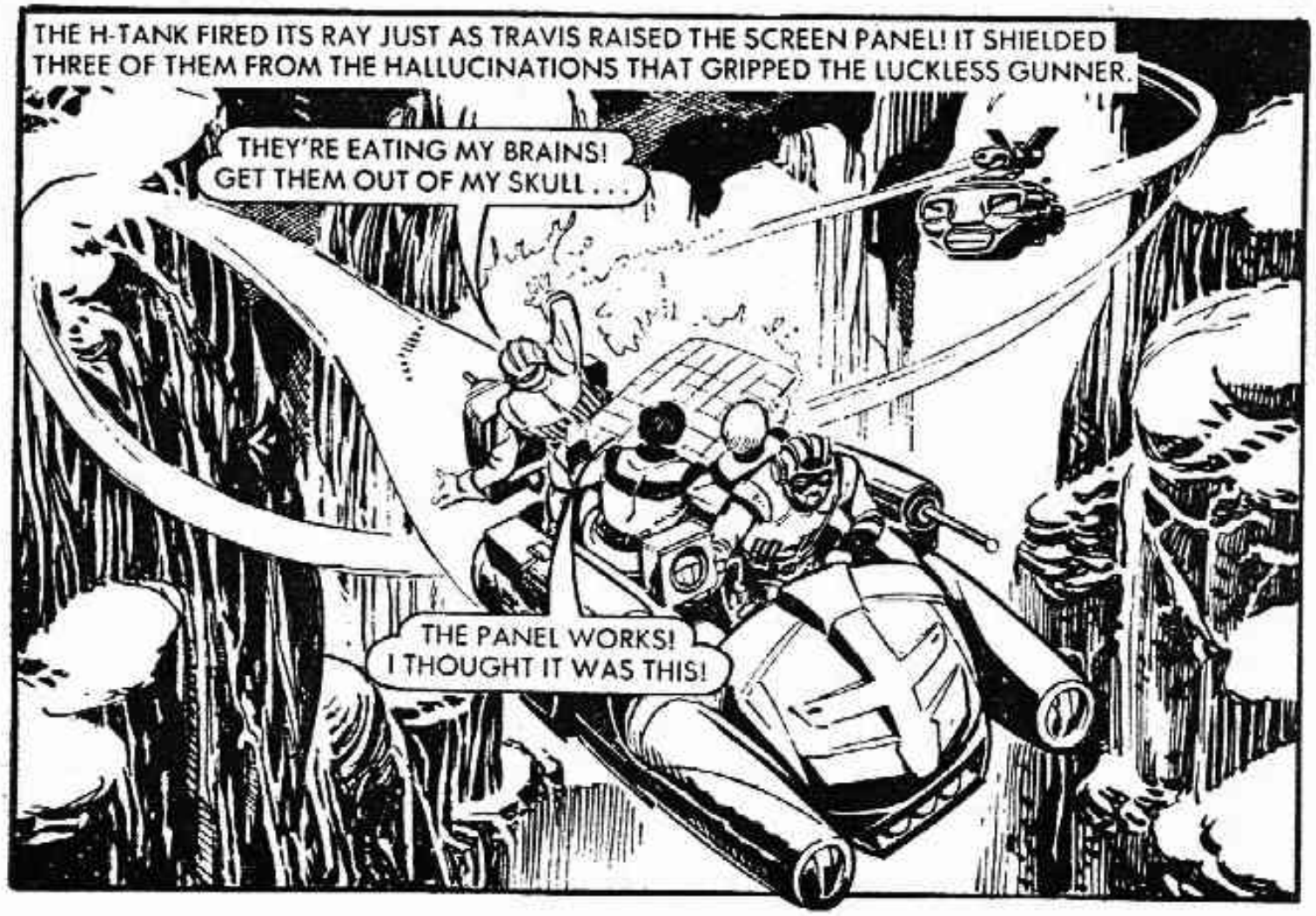
I'M GOING TO TELL THE COMPUTER TO LOCK UP UNTIL WE COME BACK FOR IT!

TRAVIS INSTRUCTED THE COMPUTER, THEN RIPPED THE SCREEN PANEL FROM ITS MOUNTING.

C'MON, TRAVIS! WE'VE GOT COMPANY!

BE WITH YOU IN A MINUTE!

YOU WENT BACK FOR A PIECE OF PLASTIC?
I THINK THIS BIT'S RATHER SPECIAL!
SO ARE THOSE TANKS — THEY'VE GOT FORCEFIELDS!


THE H-TANK FIRED ITS RAY JUST AS TRAVIS RAISED THE SCREEN PANEL! IT SHIELDED THREE OF THEM FROM THE HALLUCINATIONS THAT GRIPPED THE LUCKLESS GUNNER.
THEY'RE EATING MY BRAINS! GET THEM OUT OF MY SKULL . . .
THE PANEL WORKS! I THOUGHT IT WAS THIS!

THE HOVER-SCOOT DIVED OUT OF THE H-TANK'S VIEW, BUT THE PURSUING GUN-FLOATS SHATTERED HIS ENGINE —
ANOTHER CRASH-LANDING COMING UP!
WE'RE MAKING A HABIT OF THIS!
GET DOWN! WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THESE GARBAGE CANS!

THAT'S THE END OF THAT LOT, BUT THERE ARE PLENTY MORE ABOUT!
NOW THE WARSHIP'S BIG H-RAY IS OUT OF ACTION, WE'RE RE-GROUPING OUR FORCES DOWN IN THE CANYON. THEY'LL HAVE DIFFICULTY BRINGING THEIR H-TANKS AFTER US, AND THAT'LL BUY US TIME!
TIME IS WHAT WE NEED TO UNRAVEL THE SECRET OF THIS PANEL!
THERE'S A LAB AT GARRISON 5, BUT THE NAZZ DROVE US OUT TWO DAYS AGO!

HOW DO WE GET THERE?
WE GET OFF THIS CLIFF FIRST! THEN WE BORROW TRANSPORT FROM MY MEN DOWN IN THE CANYON!
THEY FOUGHT THEIR WAY TO A DEFENDED POSITION IN THE CANYON BOTTOM.
WE'VE GOT ENERGY NEUTRALISERS SET UP ALL ALONG HERE SO NOTHING CAN HARM US. THEY'LL WAIT UNTIL THEY'VE BROUGHT UP REINFORCEMENTS.
WE'LL TAKE A RAIDER-SLED OUT TO GARRISON 5 TONIGHT!
NIGHTFALL CAME AND THEY MADE A SAFE BREAKOUT.
WE'LL LEAVE THE SLED HERE AND GO IN ON FOOT.
THE PLACE LOOKS DESERTED! I WONDER WHY THEY HAVEN'T ANY GUARDS?

MY MEN WILL COVER OUR RETREAT!
THAT MAY BE NOW. I HEAR VOICES — GET DOWN!
PRETEND YOU'RE DEAD. WE'LL JUMP THEM AS THEY GO PAST.
OKAY, BUT KEEP IT QUIET!

GOODNIGHT, VERMIN.

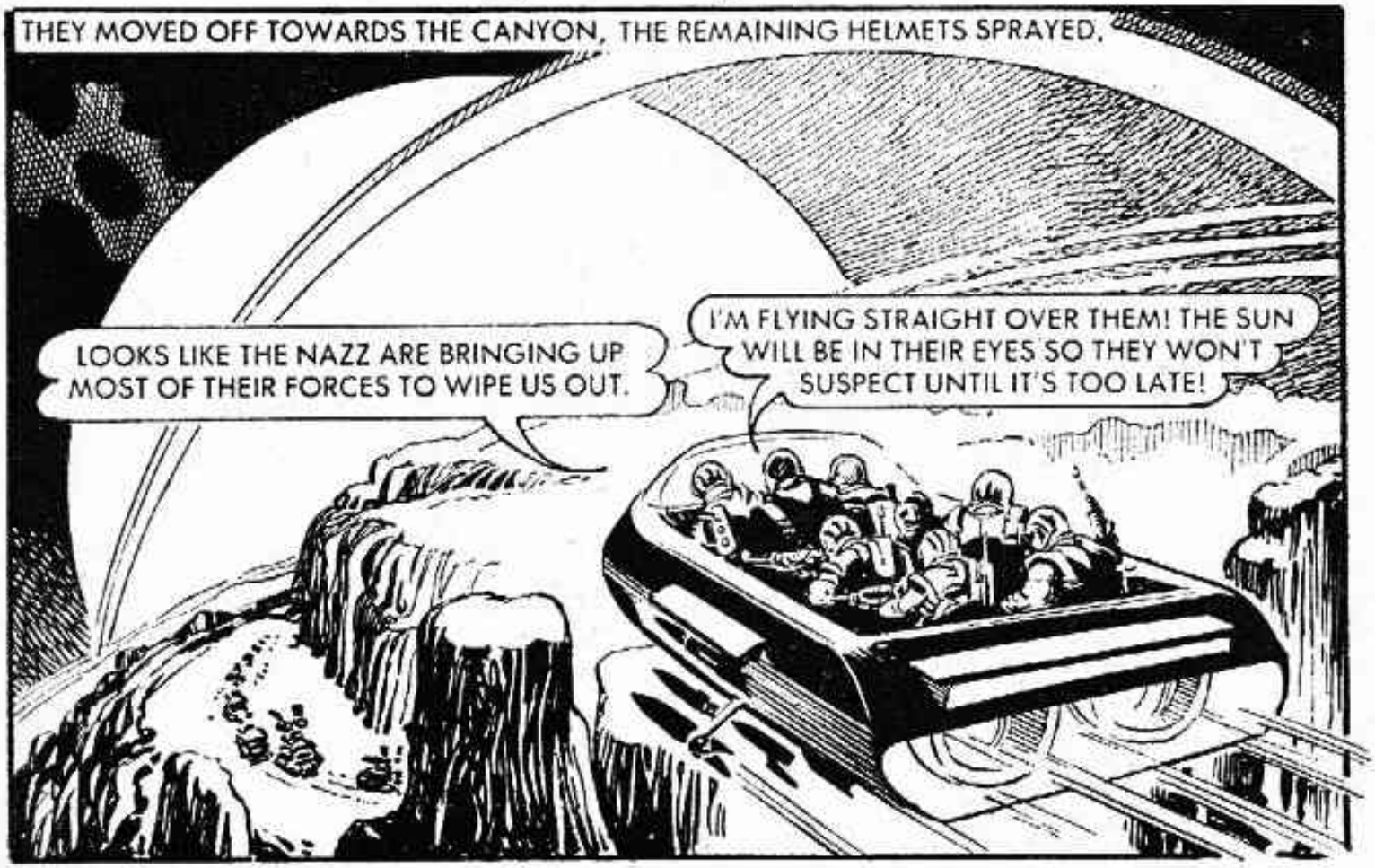
THEY REACHED THE LABORATORY AND TRAVIS PUT THE PANEL INTO AN ANALYSING SCANNER —
THE ONLY NON-STANDARD FEATURE ABOUT THIS PANEL IS A TYPE OF COATING. IT APPEARS TO BE ENZYME-BASED.
THEN IT HAS TO BE THAT WHICH BLOCKS THE H-RAY!
CAN WE MANUFACTURE IT . . . IN LARGE ENOUGH QUANTITIES?

I THINK SO! WE FEED THE FORMULAE FROM THE SCANNER INTO THAT CHEMO-SYNTHESISER — IT'LL MAKE ANY AMOUNT WE WANT!
TEN UNITS LATER THEY HAD MADE A CONTAINER FULL OF THE SPECIAL PLASTIC.
IF WE SPRAY A COATING INSIDE OUR HELMETS IT SHOULD GIVE US COMPLETE PROTECTION!
HELL'S FANGS! THAT'S WHY THEY DON'T NEED ANY GUARDS!
WE'LL HAVE TO STOP IT! IT'S HEADING TOWARDS MY MEN!

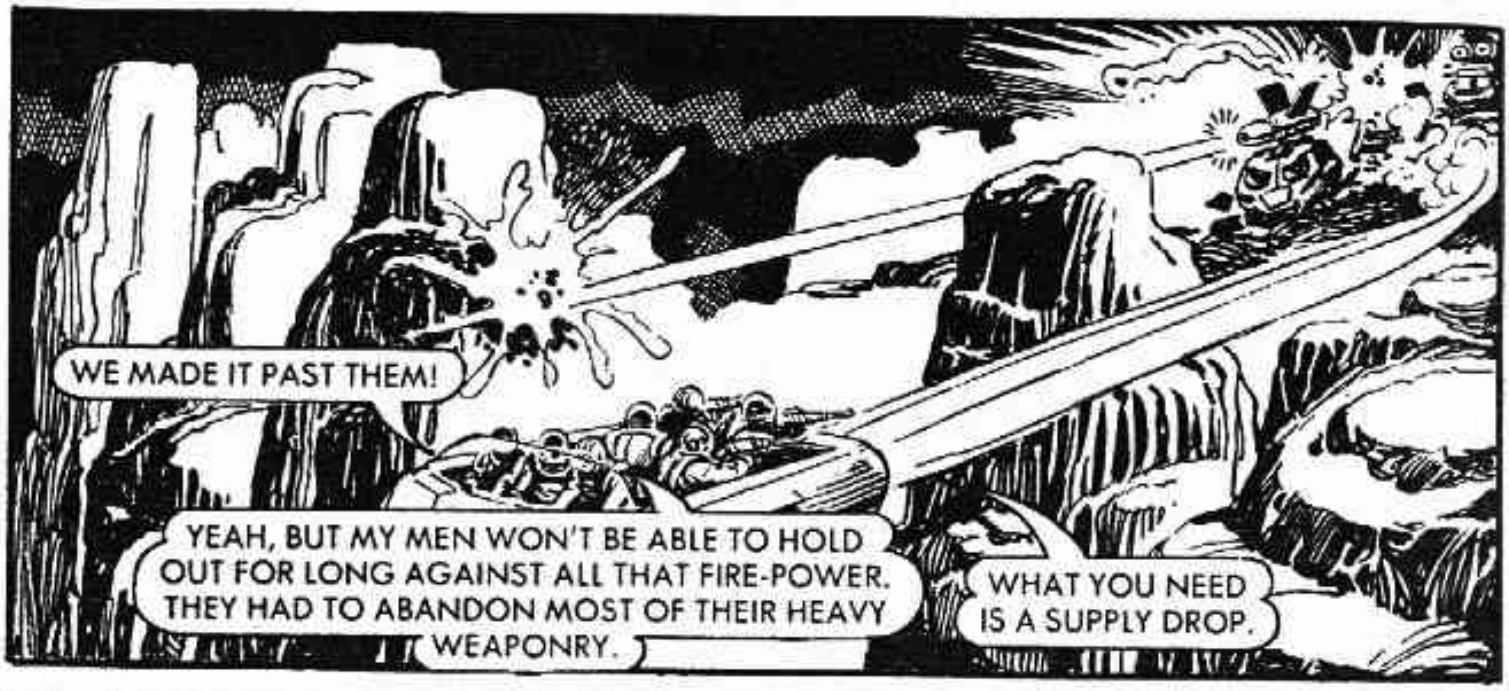
NOW'S THE TIME TO TEST THE HELMETS, TRAVIS! I'VE GOT TWO ENERGY-LIMPETS THAT'LL BURN A HOLE IN THAT FORCEFIELD!
OKAY, LET'S GO!
FIRE THE H-RAY AT THE EARTHMEN!
I AM!

THE ENERGY-LIMPETS CLUNG TO THE FORCEFIELD 'BURNING' A HOLE IN THE INVISIBLE BARRIER.
THEY'LL TAKE A MINUTE TO GET THROUGH!
THE SPRAY WORKS. THEY CAN'T TOUCH US!
THEY CAN STILL SQUASH US. THERE'S NO WAY OUT OF HERE!

BUT THE LIMPETS FINALLY BURNED THROUGH TO EXPLODE THE H-TANK INSIDE ITS OWN FORCEFIELD.


THEY MOVED OFF TOWARDS THE CANYON, THE REMAINING HELMETS SPRAYED.
LOOKS LIKE THE NAZZ ARE BRINGING UP MOST OF THEIR FORCES TO WIPE US OUT.
I'M FLYING STRAIGHT OVER THEM! THE SUN WILL BE IN THEIR EYES SO THEY WON'T SUSPECT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!

THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HIT THEM!
KEEP FIRING! GIVE THEM EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT!


WE MADE IT PAST THEM!
YEAH, BUT MY MEN WON'T BE ABLE TO HOLD OUT FOR LONG AGAINST ALL THAT FIRE-POWER. THEY HAD TO ABANDON MOST OF THEIR HEAVY WEAPONRY.
WHAT YOU NEED IS A SUPPLY DROP.

GIVE ME A COM-SET. AND GET ALL THE HELMETS TREATED!

WE'VE LICKED THE 'H' PROBLEM, TATE, BUT WE'RE LOW ON ARMS—CAN YOU HELP?
YOU NAME IT — I'VE GOT IT. GIVE ME THE ZERO ON YOUR DOORSTEP AND I'LL DELIVER!

TATE SPACED IN AND FLEW DOWN THE CANYON —
I HAVE A VISUAL ON YOU, GROUND FORCE! PREPARE TO RECEIVE YOUR ORDER!

THE FREIGHTER DROPPED CONTAINERS OF WEAPONS THAT FLOATED DOWN ON GRAVITY PARACHUTES.
YOU'D BETTER UNPACK THEM QUICK, TRAVIS! I CAN SEE THE NAZZ GROUPING FOR ATTACK!
WILL DO! GET BACK SPACESIDES — YOU'RE THE ONLY WAY OFF THIS PLANET!

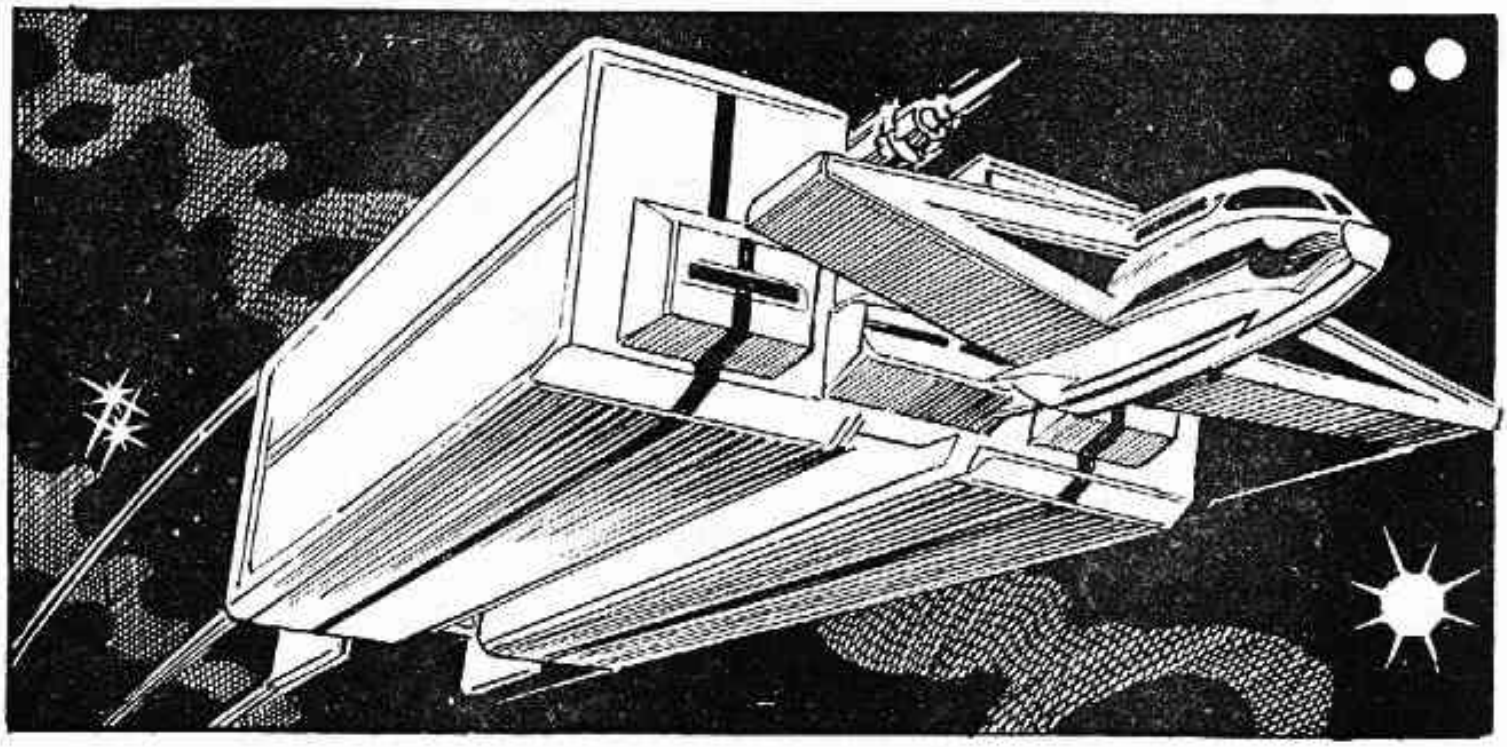
THE TROOPS DROVE STRAIGHT FROM THE CONTAINERS INTO BATTLE —

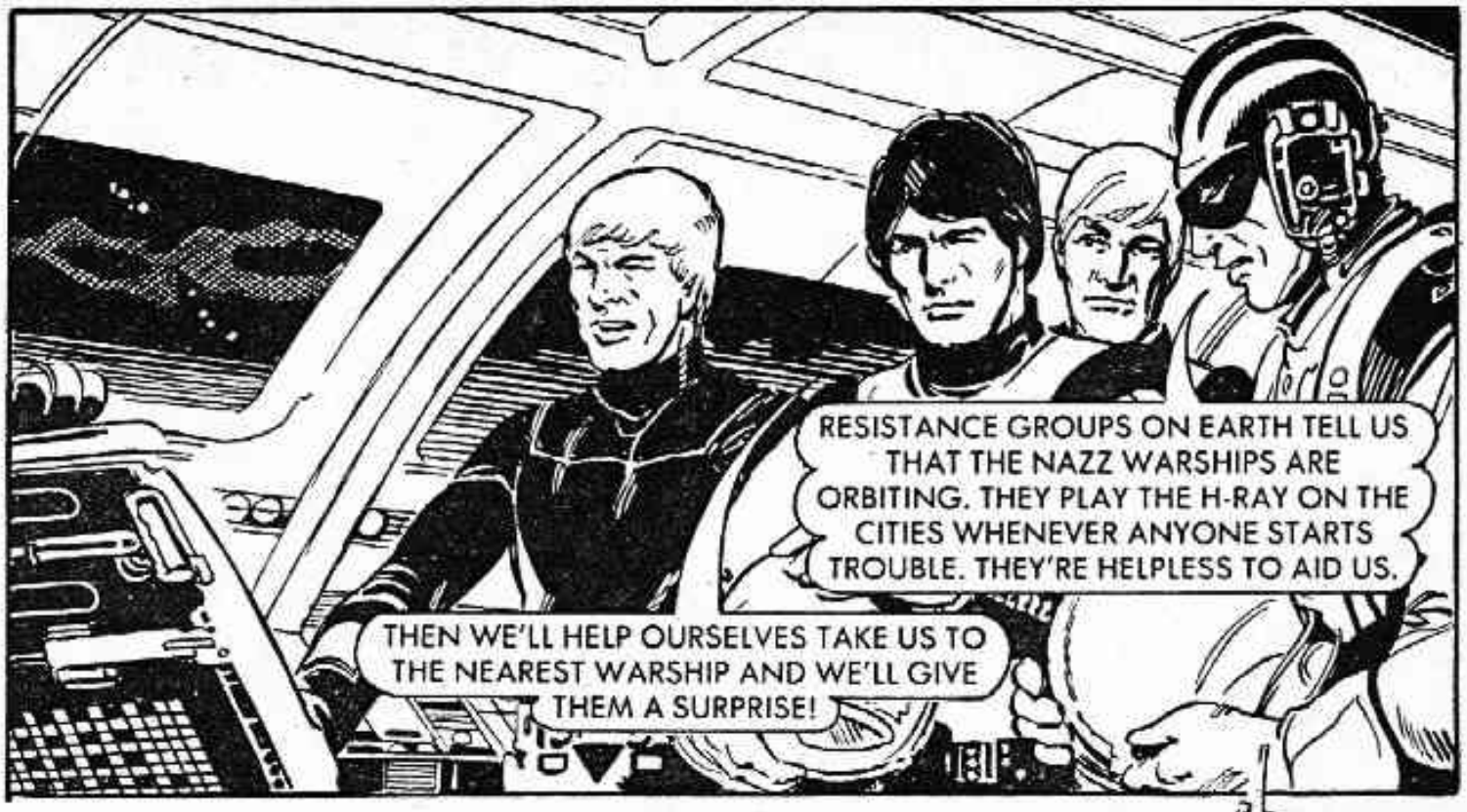
THE EARTHMEN HAD MORE MEN AND NOW THEY HAD MORE HEAVY WEAPONS. THE BATTLE WAS SHORT —
BUT —
SIR, EARTH HAS SURRENDERED! THE SPACE FLEET'S BEEN WIPED OUT!
SO WE'VE DISCOVERED HOW TO BEAT THE NAZZ TOO LATE!
WE CAN STILL BEAT THEM! THEY HAVEN'T GOT ANY PROTECTION AGAINST THEIR OWN INVENTION. UP THERE IS A WARSHIP WITH AN H-GUN AND WE'VE GOT A FREIGHTER THAT CAN CARRY A THOUSAND MEN AS WELL AS THE RAY! PUT THEM TOGETHER AND WE CAN GO HUNTING NAZZ WARSHIPS. REMEMBER, THEY'RE RELYING ON THE H-RAY TO WIN ALL THEIR BATTLES.

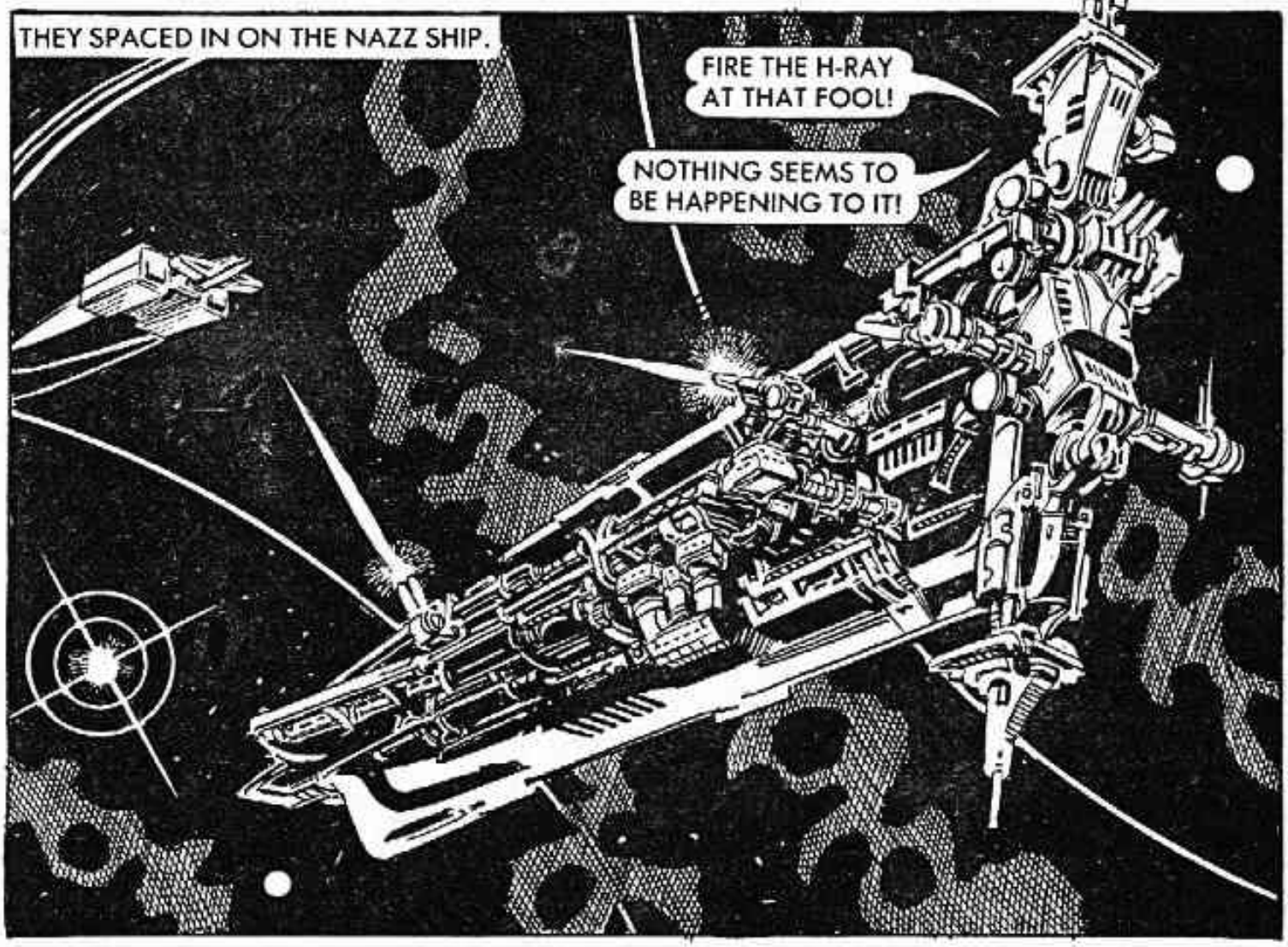
IT'S WORTH TRYING. WE COULD JUST DO IT. THEY'LL ONLY HAVE A LIMITED NUMBER OF MEN AND MOST OF THEM WILL BE ON EARTH BY NOW.

THEN LET'S GET ORGANISED, WE'RE GOING TO WAR!

THE SURVIVORS OF THE MARS GARRISON PACKED INTO THE EMPTIED FREIGHTER AND WITH THE WARSHIP'S H-GUN FIXED IN POSITION THEY SPACED OUT FOR EARTH.




RESISTANCE GROUPS ON EARTH TELL US THAT THE NAZZ WARSHIPS ARE ORBITING. THEY PLAY THE H-RAY ON THE CITIES WHENEVER ANYONE STARTS TROUBLE. THEY'RE HELPLESS TO AID US.
THEN WE'LL HELP OURSELVES TAKE US TO THE NEAREST WARSHIP AND WE'LL GIVE THEM A SURPRISE!


THEY SPACED IN ON THE NAZZ SHIP.
FIRE THE H-RAY AT THAT FOOL!
NOTHING SEEMS TO BE HAPPENING TO IT!

THEN THE FREIGHTER FIRED ITS CAPTURED H-GUN!

NO! NO! WE'RE BEING ATTACKED! KILL THE MONSTERS!

A BOARDING PARTY FROM THE FREIGHTER FOUND ONLY A FEW SURVIVORS.

OKAY, MEN, ROUND UP THE WALKING AND LOCK THEM UP.

THE CAPTURED WARSHIP THEN TOOK THE NEXT NAZZ SHIP.

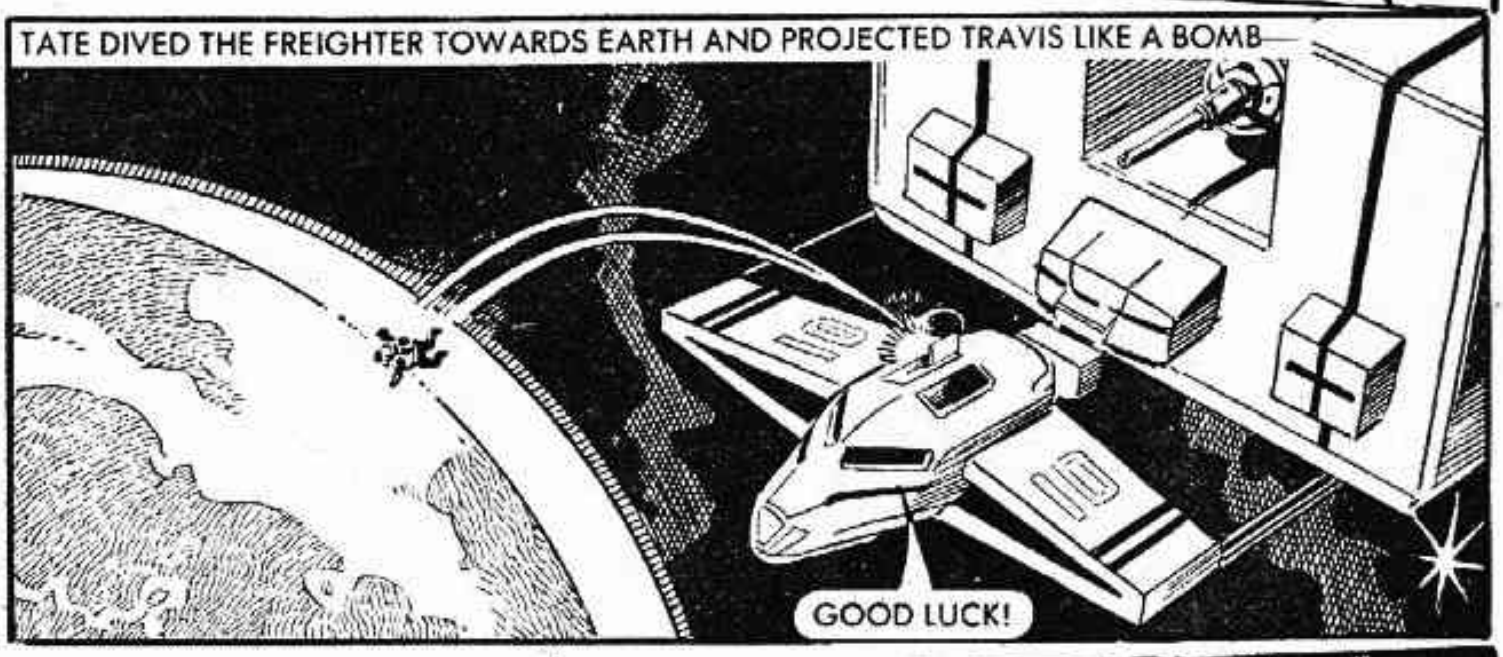
AS EACH NAZZ SHIP WAS CAPTURED IT WAS USED AGAINST ANOTHER SHIP UNTIL AT LAST THE ENTIRE NAZZ FLEET WAS TAKEN!

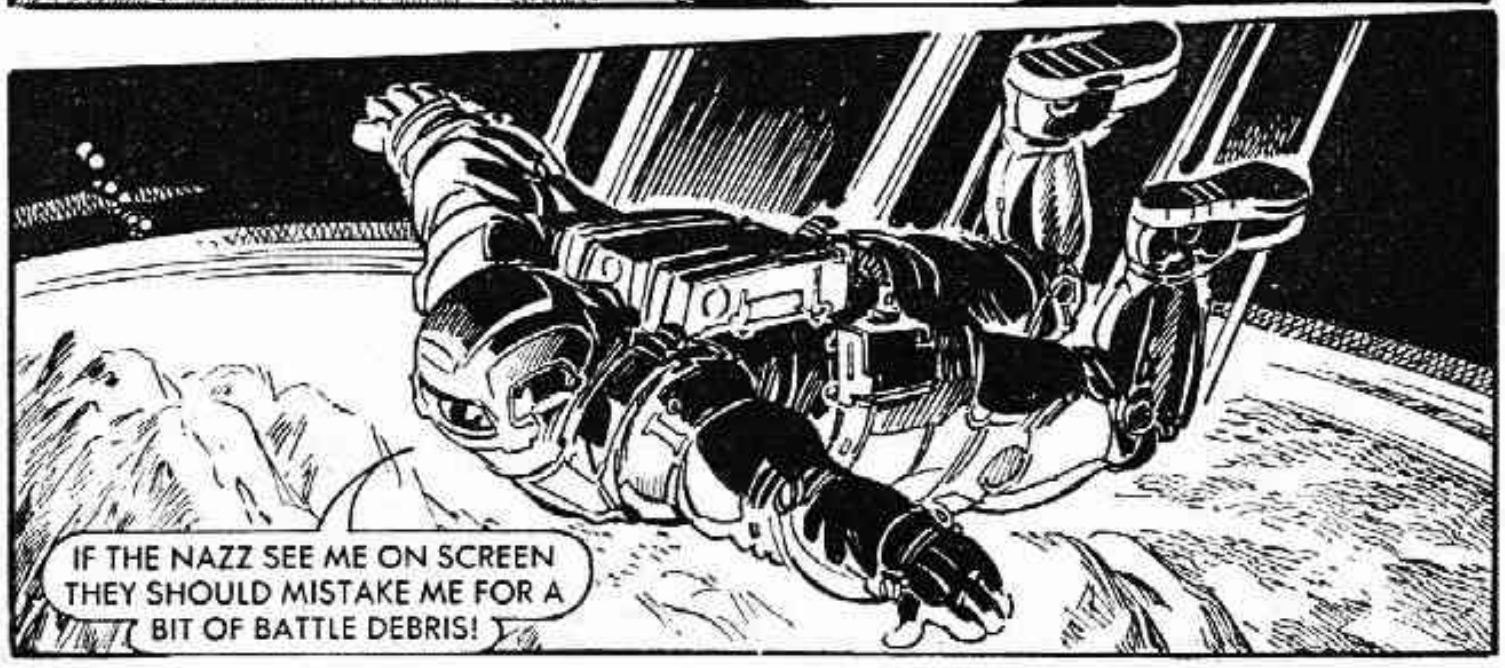
WITH THE FLEET TAKEN, TRAVIS SENT THE SECRET OF THE PROTECTING PLASTIC DOWN TO EARTH'S FORCES. IT TOOK LITTLE TIME TO WIPE OUT THME NAZZ.
SUDDENLY, ALL THE COMMUNICATION SCREENS WERE FILLED WITH THE IMAGE OF THE NAZZ COMMANDER—
LISTEN CAREFULLY, EARTHMEN! ALL FIGHTING MUST CEASE AT ONCE! I AM HOLDING MANY IMPORTANT HOSTAGES.
I AM ALSO HOLDING THE FIRING LINK TO A NUKE I AM CARRYING. ANY ATTEMPT TO ATTACK ME WILL RESULT IN THE ANNIHILATION OF THIS BUILDING — AND ITS CONTENTS!

THE NAZZ COMMANDER WAS IN THE UNITED WORLD BUILDING ON EVEREST.
I WANT MY FLAGSHIP AND A FULL CREW, AND I WANT FREEDOM TO LEAVE EARTH! THERE WILL BE NO NEGOTIATIONS! YOU WILL DO AS I SAY. YOU HAVE THREE HOURS.

THEY CAN'T LET HIM GO!
THERE'S NO CHOICE! THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN GET AT HIM — WE CAN'T EVEN USE THE H-RAY!
I THINK I COULD GET HIM AND THE BOMB OUT IN SAFETY!

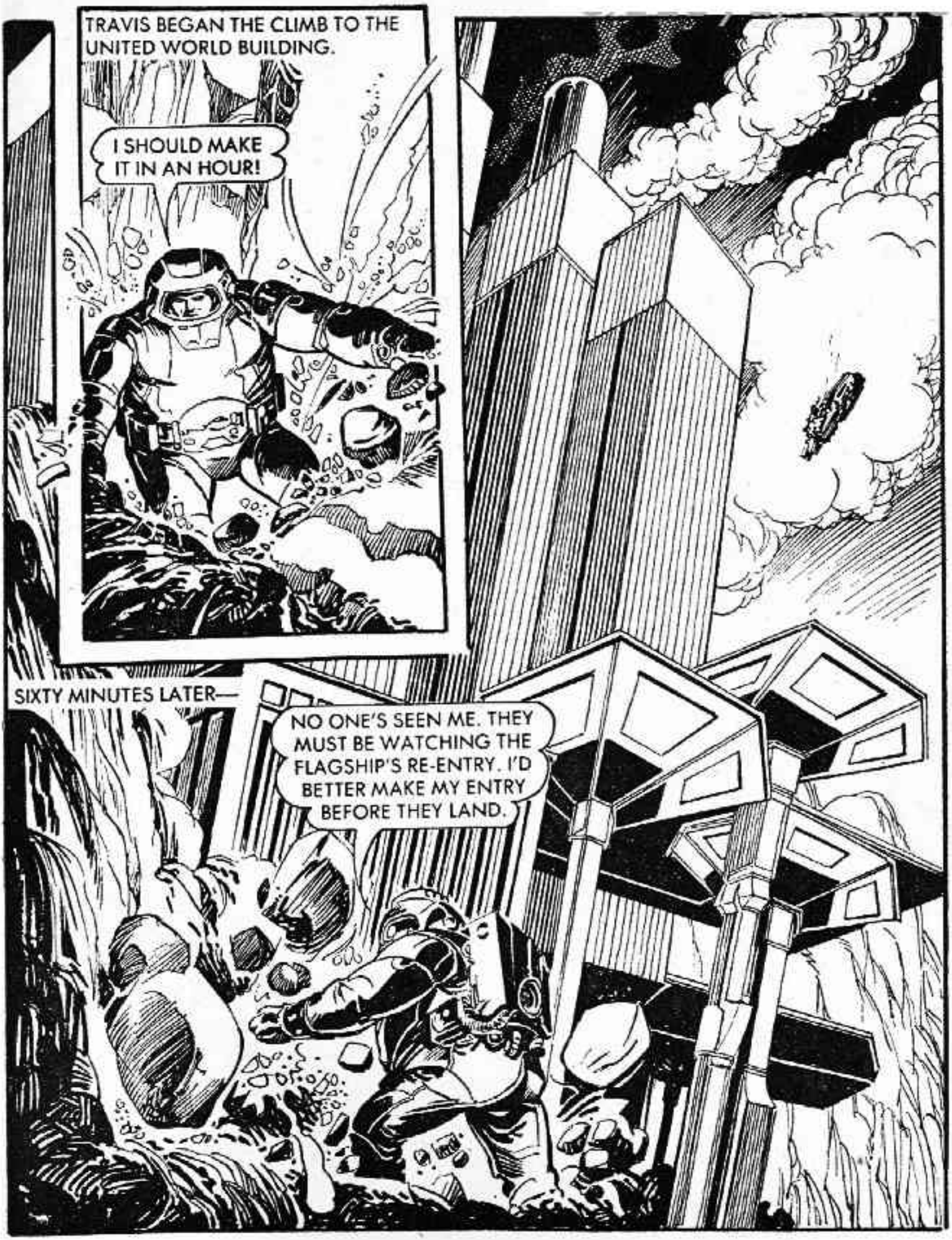
WE BROUGHT ONE OF THE JUPE-SUITS! JUST TELL EARTH TO DELIVER THE FLAGSHIP, BUT FULL OF OUR MEN. I'M GOING TO FREE FALL TO EARTH IN THE SUIT. GET THE COMPUTER TO COMPUTE ME A DROP SOMEWHERE BELOW THE SUMMIT!


TATE DIVED THE FREIGHTER TOWARDS EARTH AND PROJECTED TRAVIS LIKE A BOMB—
GOOD LUCK!

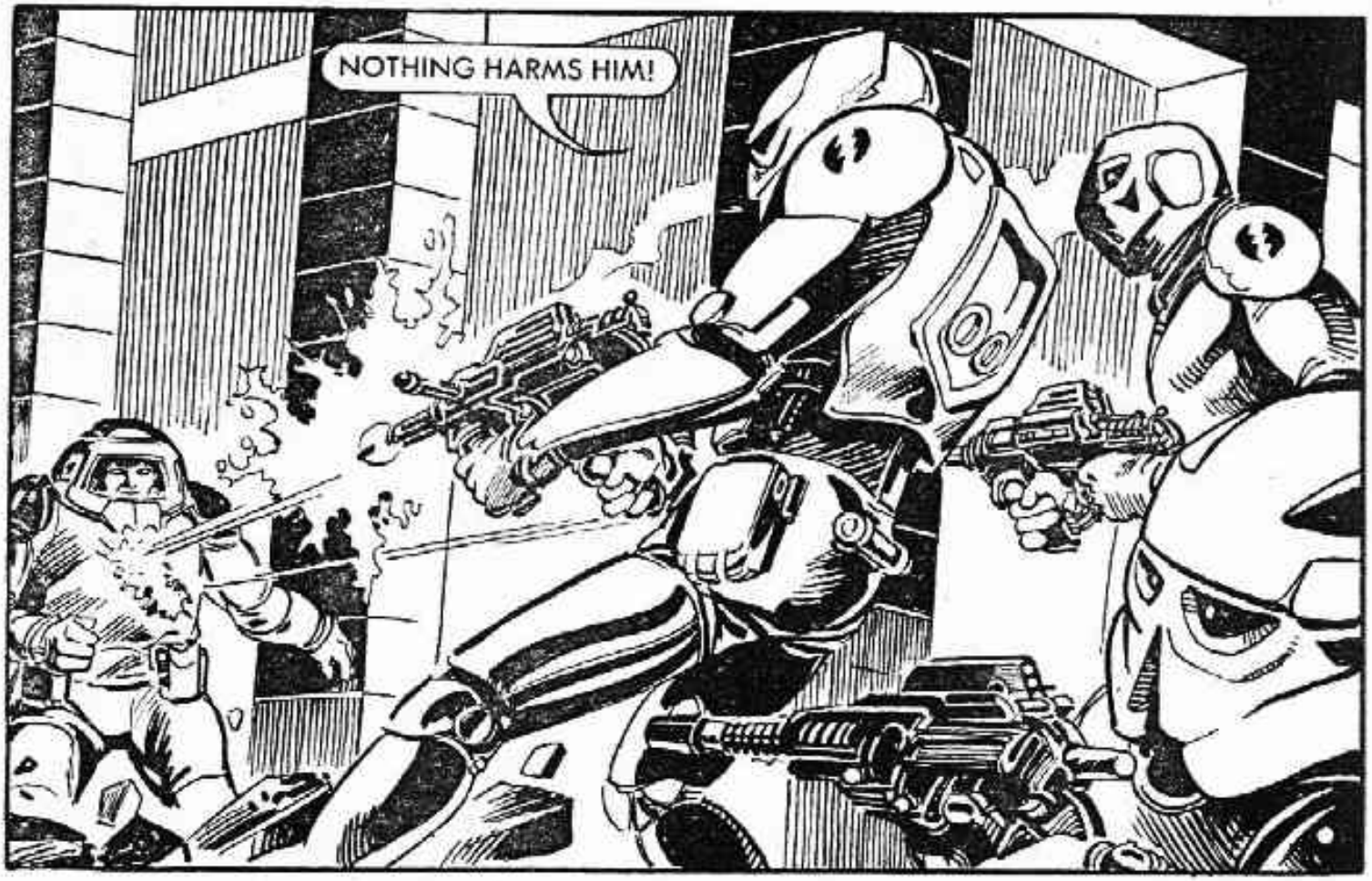

IF THE NAZZ SEE ME ON SCREEN THEY SHOULD MISTAKE ME FOR A BIT OF BATTLE DEBRIS!

EARTH'S GRAVITY IMPACTED HIM AT ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY MILES AN HOUR INTO GLACIAL ICE—

BUT THE JUPE-SUIT WAS DESIGNED TO PROTECT ITS OCCUPANT AGAINST MUCH GREATER FORCES—
SO FAR SO GOOD! EVERYTHING'S IN WORKING ORDER!


TRAVIS BEGAN THE CLIMB TO THE UNITED WORLD BUILDING.
I SHOULD MAKE IT IN AN HOUR!
SIXTY MINUTES LATER—
NO ONE'S SEEN ME. THEY MUST BE WATCHING THE FLAGSHIP'S RE-ENTRY. I'D BETTER MAKE MY ENTRY BEFORE THEY LAND.

TRAVIS RIPPED STRAIGHT THROUGH INTO THE BUILDING—
WHAT IS THAT?
SHOOT IT!


NOTHING HARMS HIM!

AND NOW IT'S MY TURN TO PLAY. DON'T RUN AWAY, VERMIN. COME HERE AND MEET DEATH!
THAT'S AS FAR AS YOU GO, EARTHMAN!
SO YOU'RE THE BIG BOSS WITH THE NUKE!

YESSS! NOW GET OUT OF THAT THING OR I RELEASE THIS TRIGGER!
OKAY, NAZZ, YOU WIN!

TRAVIS LEFT HIS SUIT—
I SHALL HAVE THAT SUIT! YOUR RESCUE ATTEMPT FAILED, EARTHMAN, BUT YOU DOUBTLESS HAVE OTHER TRICKS TO PLAY!

THE NAZZ COMMANDER SEALED HIMSELF INTO THE JUPE-SUIT.
I IMAGINE THAT MY FLAGSHIP'S CREW ARE PRISONERS OF YOUR ARMY AND THAT YOU ARE IN CONTACT WITH THE SHIP. INFORM YOUR SUPERIORS OF YOUR CAPTURE AND TELL THEM TO LET THAT SHIP COME DOWN HERE — NOW!
OKAY! OKAY! JUST HOLD ON TO THAT BOMB, WILL YOU?

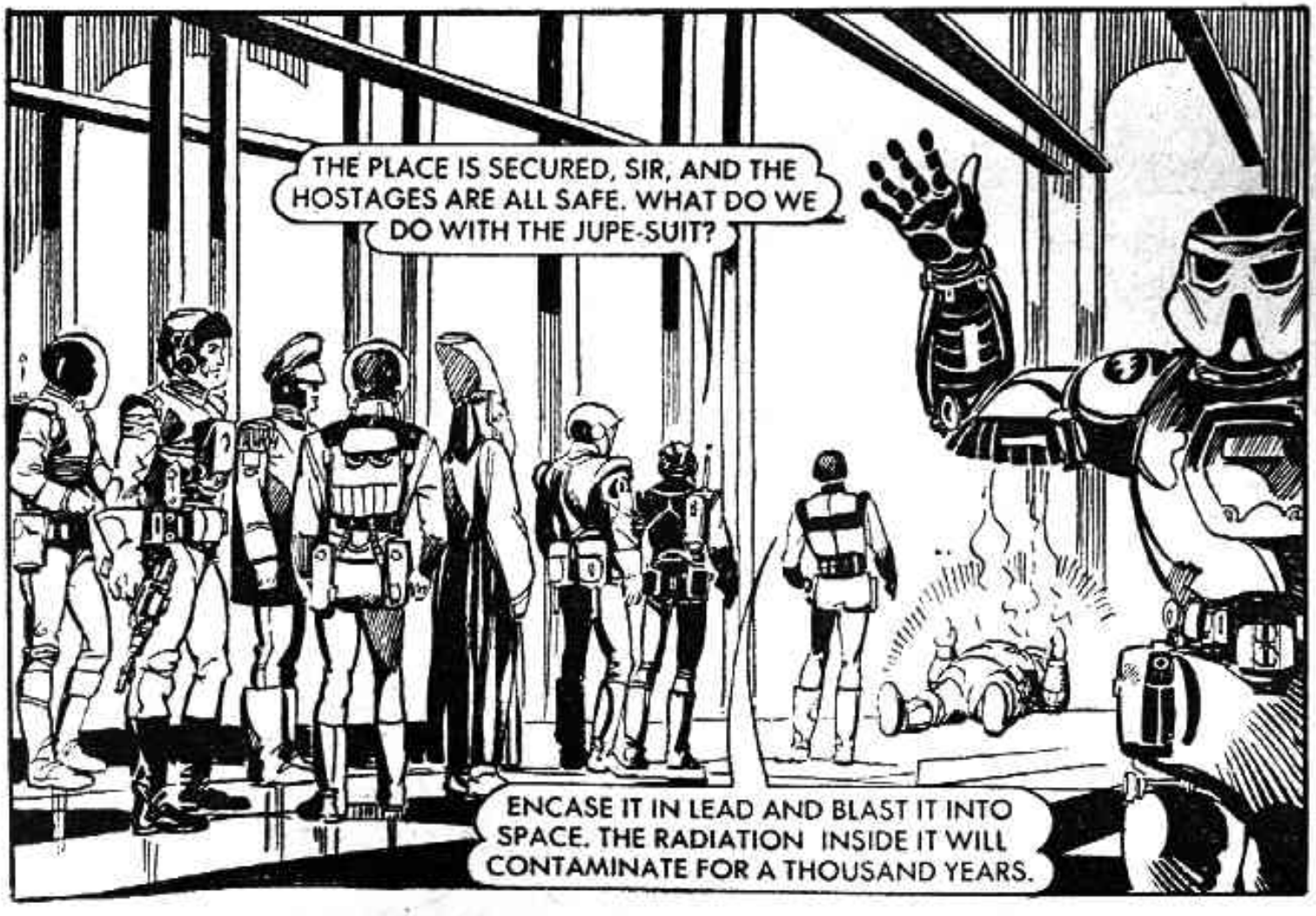
THE FLAGSHIP TOUCHED DOWN IN THE LANDING-PAD AND ITS FORWARD DOORS OPENED . . .

THEY'RE ALL YOURS! COME AND GET 'EM, BOYS!

GET DOWN, EVERYBODY. THE CAVALRY'S HERE!

IT'S NO USE, NAZZ. THERE'S NO ESCAPE FOR YOU!
THEN YOU'LL ALL DIE WITH ME! A CURSE TO ALL EARTHMEN!
REMEMBER THE NUKE'S INSIDE THE SUIT . . .

. . .AND THE SUIT WAS DESIGNED TO RESIST THERMONUCLEAR EXLOSIONS.


THE PLACE IS SECURED, SIR, AND THE HOSTAGES ARE ALL SAFE. WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE JUPE-SUIT?
ENCASE IT IN LEAD AND BLAST IT INTO SPACE. THE RADIATION INSIDE IT WILL CONTAMINATE FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.

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Soviet cosmonauts Major Pyotr Llyich Klimuk, 31, Air Force, left and Valentin Vitalyevich Lebedev, 31, were launched on a 7 day 20 hr. 55 min. mission on Soyuz 13 on December 18, 1973. Klimuk flew Soyuz 18B for 62 days 23 hr. 20 min. after a launch on May 24, 1975 and also Soyuz 30 launched on June 27, 1978 for a 7 day 22 hr. 4 min. mission. Lebedev was launched on May 13, 1982 in Soyuz T5 on a 211 day 8 hr. 5 min. mission.